

Logan, Okla. Dec 11th 1912

Dear Kirby, your first letter rec'd last night

I found every thing as good as expected on an average, the country is more broken than I thought. every one has a hundred & sixty acres, one quarter section, & all of it has a washed out place or gully, they call them drows here, Mr Murry has eighty acres in cultivation, & at least two thirds of it is good farm land. he has the barn, orchard, & house on the slope but the well & garden is up higher, & that is where he will build. there is a wind mill to pump water. he has a barn four times as big as the house, four horses or one colt, & two good mules, one cow, six big hogs, & lots of chickens, he has not much in the house, two beds, tables & chairs, & we use a cook stove & warm & cook on, but it keeps the two rooms pretty warm, we coal, there is no wood in this country. there is a stone cellar, & he has lots of fruit put up. plums (wild), peaches, & apples. the wind blows pretty hard most of the time, & its awful hard on the men they are all red eyed, they all exchange work, & Mr Murry is helping a neighbor today, & wants me to go over & see them thresh Haffner corn, they raise

wheat, oats, maize, Rye & brown corn, no
cotton, nor, or sweet potatoes. not enough rain.
its a very healthy country, snow in winter, & rain
in the spring, no snow yet, but big frost & lots
of ice. I have not gotten my things yet, but I
expect to hear my day now that they are there,
then we will send, or go after them, I put in
the old sewing machine with the balance of the
stuff, & ordered a new one, from Sears &
Roebuck, it has not come either, would I be
tickled when I got every-thing, I think Mr
Murry is well pleased with his bargain, happy as
a lark, & I am standing every-thing really
better than I expected; but don't you believe
that I am here for life without going to see
my boys, if Perry lives & get back I want us
all to have a grand reunion, tell Alma that
I am all right, & you can tell her how I am
all along, I promised to write her, but there
is nothing much that would interest her.
you better address letters to me, Isabelle because
there are several Murrys use our box. Mr Murry's
initials are L. W. there is a telephone line pretty close
I love you

expect to start Sat night

Tues morning,

Dear Kirby, my good luck
has started, I sold out last
night for the two hundred, got
fifty cash & the balance when
I give possession, which I
think will be sat, I have every
thing packed except my trunk
& will ship ^{things} off to-day, will give
the Cyclopaedia's & Alma if she
wants them, they are too heavy,
if I get the money in time I will
deposit one hundred for you in the
Lumbermans, if not I will leave it with
Mr Munger, Mr Murray will
meet me in Glacier Tex.
more later, Mother

12 - 22

1912

wel kirby this is my
first attempt to write
you I gess you think
I dont intend to write
I am glad you boys
was willing for your
ma & I to marrie &
I am glad to sai I
think we wil get along
to gether your mother
has not taken a cry
yet she seems to be
as jowel as ever &
I am proud of her
boys & tel her she has
boys to be proud of
may god help you
to continue to serve
the christ ove

• wel kirby I am stil
poor but I hav alittle
home I needed som one
to take care of it for
me & know of no one
that would sute me
as wel your mother
& I wil try to make
her as happy as I can
if I could see you I
could tell you more
then I can write
respectbuly

G. W. Murry

Dear Kirby, this is Sunday
night, & I feel like I had been
through the war, there have been
dozens of people here looking at the
things, there are two parties who
really want to buy, & I will probably
close with one to-morrow, you know
it is pretty hard to get two hundred
cash, but I believe I can do it. I
have a standing offer of one fifty cash,
nearly every one wants to buy, but
cannot raise that much money.
Alma came in the midst of the crash
& I got Mr Bee to entertain her for a
while, she thinks I am sensible in going
to Okla, well I will get all I can
out of the things but I have got

& where I cannot look out, & I
don't want to, I know it will make
a new person of me, Mr Gengauer
got the desk open for one day
you remember we could not open it,
I packed the drawers full of things
that are easiest to break, I have one
big box packed; & the fruit in one
to myself, I'll save some until you
come if I can

stayed in the barn until one
o'clock, & the joke was on them
every body is laughing at them
& they have vowed to catch us
yet. we thought that was the
last of it, but last night Mr
& Mrs James came in about dark
as we thought for a call, but
another crowd had collected in
another direction, & sent them
on to catch us, well there was
a crowd, they sat on every thing,
men, women, & children, we passed
a bucket of candy & they had a
jolly good time, I don't like such
things but there is no escape.
To day we went to the other Mr
Murrys house & spent the day
the church meeting met there
also, & we were dark getting
home, now we are both
writing. I think then all like

me all right, we are just
writing to Mrs Watts. Mr
Murray is just the same, except
he looks a little older. If same

I feel out of place, & unsettled
now, but as soon as any things
come I will be busy as a bee
& I know I will soon feel at
home, will tell you more
about things later.

I do hope that you are well
& every thing all right
with you, Tell me if you
get the money all right, &
how you are getting along.

I will only write once a
week now I guess,
but I love you just the same
Mother

Lagan, Okla.

B.R. no 2 / Box 33.

Sogon, Okla, Dec 8

Dear Ruby, I did want
to write you Sat, but never had
the time, I am passing through
some novel experiences, & have to
punch myself occasionally to see
if it is I, we got here Sat
Wednesday afternoon, & in a little
while here came Mr Richard
Murrays wife & several of the young
people, they helped me to prepare
supper, & after dark Mr Murray
came with another bunch, & we
had a regular jubilee, they all
went home late, six miles to
go in a wagon, the whole
country is excited over my coming

& the customs here are so human
people where they got married. That
means to surround the house, &
make all the noise possible, well
one of the merry boys told us
that a large crowd was coming
Thursday night, & for us to
dodge them; it was freezing cold
but we took some quilts & got
in the wheat bin, may up in
the barn, climbed a ladder,
pulled it up with us & then
fastened the door on the inside.
Pretty soon the mob came, & I
never heard such a din in my
life. They looked through the
house, in the stove cellar, chimney
house, & even searched the barn
but never found us, (I was
almost afraid to breathe) then
they went to find of the nearest
neighbors looking for us, & then
came back here again, we

Gibbscomb, Tex, Da

Dear Kirby, Mr Murry
met me in Glasgow, & we came
on to this place & were married
in the Hotel here today, we
go on home tomorrow, I am
very well, fine weather.

I love you
mother

Sagar Oklahoma.

P. O. No 2, Box 33.

✓
Sat 3, 30

Dear Kirby, every-thing
is all right, I deposited the
money, & here is the receipt.
I put Douglass box in storage,
& my trunk, & two suit cases
are all ready, & I go on the
Santa Ray & will be right
alma is coming this evening
I got a card from Perry, & his
address is Covite P. O. Cal
P.M. at San Francisco,
I am so thankful he is all right
I am a little tired but in
fine spirits, don't want to
say a bid, will write again
soon, lovingly, Mother.

Blazier Tex, Dec 3 1912

Dear Kirby, I got here safely
yesterday, Mr Munn met me here, & we
are going to Libscomb to-day, & will be
married there, then go on home, my freight
is not here yet; but I has only been shipped a
week; fine weather, & every thing all right.

I love my boy, will write again soon,
Mother.

address Logan,
Okla.

Beaver Co,

R.R no 2.

Box 33,

U.S.S. Mohican.
Cavite, P. I.

Dec 14, 1912.

My Dear Mother: -
your letter of Nov 8th to hand
being forwarded to me from Frisco.
Thanks awful - Arrived here the 1st
we come by Honolulu and Guam
also Manila - only 8 miles from
here to " . . . As for myself good
condition except slight fever I had.
Waiting here for the Fleet to
come in - Then we will be
stationed aboard the ship we
will be on for a couple of
years. Mightily hot here believe
me. Havent heard from Leek
or Kirby lately. As for your
plans Mother Dear I dont
hardly know what to say.
I know, that I havent treated
you right by any means

in the past couple of years - I know it is awful lonely by your self - Luck is of course gone for good. Kirby I believe will soon be settled down, and it is nearly 3 years before I can come home.

It would be better for you I believe if you had a steady home - and also you like to be in the country better than the City. Now Mother Dear Don't think that I will be tickled to death to see you do so, but I believe it would be better than the way you are fixed. It has often surprised me that you never thought of doing so before. Believe me Mother Dear when I get out I am coming to you whether you are in the or elsewhere. I leave everything

to your best judgement.

Write me and tell me
every thing - Mother Dear I
still love you and always
will and still do my
best when I return
to win her back to me.

Have you seen Mrs. Murry
lately. Merry Xmas & a Happy
new year to my Dear Mother.

God Bless & Keep you safe

I pray for us all,

God grant
that everything
is for the best

By By.

Your Boy
Perry.

address.

U. S. S. Mohican, Cavite P. I.

DRAKE UNIVERSITY

DES MOINES, IOWA.

SHERMAN KIRK
DEAN, COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

November 12 1912

Mary Dear:-

I have been having some strenuous times since I wrote you last. I went up to a small town about forty miles from here over Sunday. I talked both morning and night and after services Sunday night I walked nine miles along a dark country road in the hopes of catching a late interurban car into Des Moines. I missed it by twenty minutes and had to spend the night in the station. I caught the first car in the morning and reached Des Moines about 8:00 o'clock, so I did not miss any of my classes. It surely was some experience. Perry

We had a very enthusiastic meeting of the Y M C A cabinet tonight. The State Student Secretary was present and we outlined some plans for the work that I believe will cause our work to pick up. I am giving quite a lot of time to this work, but feel that it is in a good cause and am glad to do it. They have been trying for twenty years, so I am told, to have a successful Association here and have always failed. It will be a great work if I am instrumental in helping to achieve the end that has been sought after for so long a time.

I had another talk with Miss Jordan today, and she said some mighty nice things about you. She said that she believed you were about as tactful a girl as she had known of and expressed her desire to meet and know you personally. It may be that she will have a chance some of these days.

It was just two months ago tonight that I kissed you good bye. In a way it is hard for me to realize that it has been so long and in another way it seems ages and ages ago. Just think, the time is one fourth gone. Time goes by so quickly that June will be here before we hardly realize it, and then won't we be happy together again.

Kiss me 'night now and remember that I love you.

Your boy

Kirby

P.S. Have you been to see mother lately?

DRAKE UNIVERSITY

DES MOINES, IOWA.

SHERMAN KIRK
DEAN, COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

November 23 1912

Sweetheart of Mine:-

No, I haven't forgotten you. I have been waiting for another letter for mother in order that I might give you full particulars about that important matter that I spoke of. It is simply this: mother is going to marry again. She wrote me about it some three weeks ago and we have only now come to a definite conclusion. The situation is just this: When we lived at Lott, Texas, some seven years ago our next door neighbors, by the name of Watts, were about as good friends to us as we have ever had. Mrs Watts has a brother about fifty years of age now, who is unmarried. About eight years ago he went to Oklahoma and took up a section of land there, or at least a part of a section, I don't know just how much. He now has a title to it and has 80 acres of it in cultivation and has a good farm equipment, etc. We have been in constant correspondence with Mrs Watts all of these years since we were at Lott, and sometime this year the thought occurred to her that since her brother was all alone in Oklahoma, with no one to keep him company and since mother was all alone in Houston that it would be a good plan for them to be married and help each other. So Mr Murray, for that is his name, wrote mother and suggested the proposition to her. She immediately wrote me, saying that she thought she had better accept; that she would have a good home and not have to worry about where her next meal was coming from; and that she could never be satisfied without a home of her own; and that she did not think it would be wise for her to ever try to live with us boys; and that Mr Murray was a good Christian man and abundantly able to take care of her; and that she thought she would be better satisfied there than she would all alone; so she wanted to know if I had any objections. I immediately wrote her that I thought it would be better for her to come up with me or allow me to come home and take care of her. She wrote

back that she did not think it would be wise for her to come here and that she did not want me to give up school, and that she thought she had better go there. After thinking about it for a long time and praying over it, I have come to the conclusion that it may be the best thing after all, so I wrote her that if she would rather go than to depend on us boys, that I was perfectly willing for her to go. In her letter today she said that she was going and expected to get off just as quickly as possible. She does not intend to say anything about it to anyone in Houston, so you will know how to regard this.

As much as I would like to have mother with me, I can see where this may be better for all hands. Ordinarily it is not best for a mother to live with her married children as almost invariably trouble comes of it, and while I believe that in our case everything would go along smoothly, I am sure that mother would never be satisfied. As it is, she will have a good home and will not have to worry about finances all the times. She will be away from the city, which will be a good thing for her, so it may be better all around.

I wish you would go to see her just as soon as possible and have a good talk with her. I know she will be glad to see you and talk things over with you. Write me how things come out.

It is now late and I have to get up at five o'clock in the morning to catch an early train, so I will not say more now, except that I love you dearly and would like mighty well to see you again.

Your old boy

Kirby



never would, & for Bob's sake
to do right, I am expecting him
now every day now.

I do hope I can decide this
week what to do, I don't feel
like I could stand it here much
longer, I am getting terribly
nervous over it, I am so afraid
I will do the wrong thing, I am
not willing to give up the idea of
going to Mr. Murray some time, for
I know I never will find anyone
else that wants & needs me, like
he does, & it looks like foolishness
to keep him waiting, & if you & God
say go on now, must I leave any
of your books & things with

Adina, or take them along,
don't you think I ought to have
the Paines, I've done without
most every thing in order to pay
for it, & you won't need one
year several years. Mr M
asked would not I live in the
two room house for a while, said
he could borrow, or mortgage it
place to build a good house. But
He might die, & then I would be
without a home, & I would not
ask him to do it.

I am praying for strength
to do the right way.

I love my boy
mother

I received the Delphic, you
for you, you
are surely com-
in to your own
this year, and
don't let it slip
you, I showed
it to all the peo-
ple here, & sent it
over to Mr
Plancocks -
Comical story
to-day, fine
weather, I am
not going out
at all, don't
care for it.

Houston Nov 10 -

Dear old Kib, Boy,

I am so anxious to hear
what you & Yeak think best
for me to do, you see if I was
to come up there I would be
worse off than ever, because
you would want to come here
every vacation to see Alma, &
when you finished school we
wouldn't have a thing to move
away or, as it is not best, & I
don't want to do it, I am afraid
Perry is in trouble again, he
has not mither for several weeks
& then he asked me to send him
the watch, & I told him I

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
ST. PAUL, MINN.

October 23, 1912.

Mr. Kirby Page,
c/o Drake University,
Des Moines, Ia.

My dear Kirby:-

Your good letter of the 19th inst. was very much appreciated, as was also your former letter which I had been holding until I could get some other things out of the way, in order to give it the kind of an answer it deserves.

I do not believe your mother even feels a greater delight and satisfaction at the progress you are making, than is true of myself for I surely have a peculiar interest in your welfare, and any achievement or success is hailed with delight. Surely you are making things hum around Drake, but it is all good for you as long as you do not injudiciously over tax your strength. I am glad you are doing what you can to resurrect the Student Association. The contact with the State Secretaries will be good for you. I presume from what you say that you are doing some speaking on Sundays.

I have surely struck a big job for once in my life, and if you were here I know you would enjoy some of the things that are actually comical. This leads me to say that I am looking forward to having you with me for the Christmas Holidays. You remember I gave you the invitation in Houston, and while we may both have been joking at that time, I am sincerely in earnest now, and you must not disappoint me. I have a lot of things that I want to talk over with you.

Write me as often as you can, and believe me.

Yours sincerely,



General Secretary.

DRAKE UNIVERSITY

DES MOINES, IOWA.

SHERMAN KIRK
DEAN, COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

November 5 1912

Sweetheart:-

I cast my first vote today - it was for Woodrow Wilson. An unusually heavy vote is being polled here and it looks as though Wilson will carry the state, although this is ordinarily a Republican stronghold. We expect to have some lively times tonight watching the returns come in.

After having been in the Colonials for over a month, I am more than ever convinced that I made the right move when I went in with them. Although the club is only a year old we have one the best bunches of fellows in school. Our group is just a little different from any of the other clubs and some members of the faculty have said that they thought we had the best bunch in school. Most of the fellows smoke, dance, and play cards, but just the same they are a mighty decent set - no gambling, drinking or smutty language is tolerated. I am not finding it at all hard to refrain from smoking, etc. The fellows don't expect it of me and would be disappointed if I should indulge. I am trying to keep straight and feel that I am succeeding fairly well.

Jack is still going at a pretty swift pace. I think I told you that he was dancing, playing cards, etc., now. I had a long talk with him yesterday and it seems that he is pretty badly up in the air on his beliefs. I am not sure whether he will continue in his idea of being a preacher or not.

I am not sure whether I told you last summer about Jack and a girl here by the name of Helen Jarvis. They went together quite a little last spring - in fact they were together so often that people began to suspect that they thought a lot of each other. Helen is one of the nicest girls in school and is about the only girl in school that Jack has gone with that he has not taken liberties with.

DRAKE UNIVERSITY

DES MOINES, IOWA.

SHERMAN KIRK
DEAN, COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

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In fact, he never tried anything with her - he told me that he respected her too much. Things went on this way last spring and when they came back this fall they started to going around together for a while. Finally, Jack began to see that people were talking and he decided that inasmuch as he did not care for the girl in the way people thought - in fact, he told me that he could not think of her as the kind of girl he wanted for a wife - so stopped going with her. Then people began to talk more than ever, and Helen began to feel pretty badly about it, and she sent back some presents that Jack had given her and for a while they would not speak. She and I were pretty good friends and in talking with her she said some things indirectly that lead me to think that she cared a lot for Jack. Last Sunday night she and I went down town to church together and after church we walked home, and I had another good talk with her, and my suspicions were made stronger than ever about her feeling toward Jack, although she denied that she cared anything for him. I have had a talk with Jack since and told him that he had better go pretty carefully. He said that he thought the best thing he could do was to simply let her entirely alone. I don't know how it will all turn out, but I shall watch developments with interest. I find, however, that I am going to have to be careful myself. I have been around quite a little with her myself and I heard indirectly yesterday that there was beginning to be a little talk about it, so I am going to break it off altogether. Almost everybody that knows me knows about you, so I will have to keep pretty straight, won't I?

With lots of love to my sweet little wife, I am

Yours forever

Kirby

Oct 23 1912

Mary, my dear :-

I have finally secured a place to practice and expect to begin my practice tomorrow. one of the members of the Colonials is quite an excellent musician and he rented a piano in the conservatory and is going to let me use it an hour a day. He is also going to give me one lesson each week. I really do not have the time to spare for this, but I want to learn so badly that I am going to try it.

I had a long letter from mother yesterday and she seemed to have the blues pretty badly. I don't know what to do about matters. I know she is having a mighty miserable time of it and I don't feel right about the way I am treating her. I

sometimes think I ought to throw up
my school proposition and go home
and take care of her. The boys certainly
are not treating her right at all. I
have not decided definitely just what I
will do about it. I wish that we
✓ could persuade her to sell what little
stuff we have and come up here with
me. We could get along all right, I am
sure and would be so much happier
in every way. I wish you would go
to see her right away and try to
persuade her to do this, but don't
let her know that you are acting
on a suggestion from me. I think
things are in such a state that she
is getting desperate and something ought
to be done immediately. Since it is out

of the question for me to be there, I wish you would do what you saw. I have written her advising her to come up right away and believe that a word from you would her to decide. I am convinced that she ought to come or I ought to go home, one of the other. Write me after you have seen her and tell me what you think about the whole proposition.

Here's hoping that it will all come out for the best. Pray for us all that we may do the right thing.

yours forever

Kirby

Young Men's Christian Association

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Kirby I don't want to come up there, I would
 rather stay here.
 Pres: Dear Kirby I have
 nothing new to tell you; as soon as I get
 another letter I will write you, & I don't
 want you to worry, I am not going to do
 any thing in a rush, but dear, I never
 will be content without a home of my own
 & there I would go to church, which I
 know I ought to do, & I know I would
 be doing something to make others happier;
 I just can't bear to think of keeping
 roomers always, & you know I could
 not sit down for you to support, I must
 have a little niche somewhere, & fill
 it to the best of my ability, I know I have
 always said that I never would try & any
 more again, but I have changed; I see no
 use in being a hermit, when I could do
 something to provide myself with a home for
 old age, & make some poor Paul happy too,
 & I would be nearer to all you boys, you could
 stop coming & going, I will tell you soon as
 I find out, all about it. Mother

DRAKE UNIVERSITY

DES MOINES, IOWA.

SHERMAN KIRK
DEAN, COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

October 19 1912

Sweetheart of Mine:-

Tomorrow will be thirty two months, not since we began to love each other, but since we found out that we loved each other. Am mighty sorry that I can not be with you, but I know that you will think about me and will remember that we love each other more than ever and are happy in the thoughts of the future.

I am getting lots of mail these days - five letters yesterday and three today. Leak seems to be getting along in good shape. One of the letters that came this morning was from Perry, the first one I have had in about three months. He seems to be in good spirits. I really do believe that the old boy is coming to his senses and that the next few years will show a great improvement in him.

I intended to tell you more about the Y M C A work here in my last letter, but was crowded for time. The situation is about this: At the last cabinet meeting we had last Spring we made certain plans for the beginning of the work this Fall and certain members of the cabinet were assigned to particular duties, and we thought that everything would start off in good shape. However, when I got back this Fall I found that the president of the Association was out of town and that some members of the cabinet were not in school, and that absolutely nothing had been done to set things up. To make matters still worse, the president of the Association decided that on account of insufficient time he had better resign, and so he did. Just about this time the president of the university decided that we were not going to do anything, so he took away from us the only thing of which we made a success last year, viz., the employment bureau. This was the condition of things when I was elected president. I have had two good conferences with the State Student Secretary and am hopeful that we will be able to accomplish something, even with the poor start that we have. I will let you know later how things come out.

We are having almost ideal weather and today is the date of our first big foot ball game, Drake vs. Kansas. I expect to take in the big scrap.

I hope that you are happy and content and that you are felling well. I love you "heaps", baby dear.

Your big boy

Kirk

are you reading the Delphin?

Houston Oct 27

Dear Kirby, your letter received, I hate so much to stir up this way, but I tell you Kirby that is too good a thing to throw away, why that land is worth thousands of dollars, & will double in a few years; & I really do want to go, & its only on your account that I hesitate, we are two old fools too old to be sentimental, & its purely a business transaction, I would very much rather wait on one old man than I have full of cranks. I do not doubt your loyalty to me for a moment, but I want a home all my own.

& you know you never can
be with me nights. for as soon
as you are out of school you
will be married, & then I will be
no better off, I am so tired of
the struggle & strife of a city.
I want to live in quiet & peace.
& Mr. Murry would never humiliate
you boys before your friends, & he
is a good Christian man, & you
must remember that when you knew
him he was like us, down & out,
but prosperity & kindness works
wonders, He has eighty acres in
cultivation, a well that cost two
hundred dollars, six horses, & pigs
& chickens, & will get a car & go,
no buggy yet, but just think

Dear Kirby I
never send off my letter
the other day, but I now
honestly don't you think it
is the best thing I could do.
I never will be content
without a home, & they are
liable to sell this old house
any time, & I could not sell
this junk for any thing
then, & besides I think you
need some money as bad as
I do a home, so lets do it.

I don't want to stop your
education, but is it necessary
for me to stay here, I
can't see it that way,
if I had this awful burden
of making ends meet taken
off my shoulders, I would
feel like a different person
don't worry about it, but
do tell me what to do.

I would not throw myself
away, so that you need be
ashamed of me, I love you
Mother

Houston. Oct 18—

Dear Kirby; your letter
rec'd. & I don't believe you
understood what I meant by going
to Oklahoma. I would have I
be married to Mr Murry if I
went there to live; I know you
will be ashamed of me, & think I am
crazy, but I am not. I am only
tired of living & struggling along
this way, I cannot stand it. & why
should I, you boys have all left
me to dig for myself. so why not
make the poor old fellow happy,
I would have some one to take
care of me, & a home as long as I
live, Kirby I know you will help
me later on, but its now I need
some one, & you have all you can
do, I can't go to Des Moines there
would be nothing to live on. I
tell you I cannot stay on this way
two or three years longer. I believe
I would go crazy. & it would

take every cent I could make
to keep up the old house, This
may I would sell every thing
almost, & give you half, I
want to keep the Piano if I may
I just know I would be happier
you could see me sometimes, &
maybe I could take a trip too
sometimes, but best of all I
would not have to marry over
road, & maybe I could do
some thing with Perry away from
a city, if he ever gets back
Mr Murry's brother lives pretty
close, & I used to know his wife,
she is a nice woman, & I would
see Mrs Watts too,

don't think for a moment that I
would leave my boys any less, but
you know I need a home, for old
age is surely coming, & you boys will
have all you can do, must I ask
Geok & Perry about it. write me
soon, I have got to say what I will
do. I love you still. Mother

Houston Oct 8 -

Dear Kirby, your long letter rec'd, I don't know how I feel about it yet, what hurts me is because I have been the cause of you and Leak' always being separated, I wouldn't mind the hard work so much if we could all be near each other, but its like every thing else I ever wanted, I can't have it, so I'll stay on here as long as I can make ends meet,

Mr Arnold is a funny
Kind of a man, is just
about as absent minded as
yourself. the first night
he slept on top of the cover
then he never put down
the bar, & the third night
he turned every thing down &
slept on the bed tick, so
I had to take charge, now I
get every thing ready for him
we had a good rain Sunday
but its still hot.

I recieved an invitation to
Inez's wedding, she is to be

married on Oct 15th to
Charlie Davidson, I don't
know a thing about him,
will write some of them
right away: you would never
hear me howling about not
having anything to do, this
keeps me busy all the time
I lie down a little while
after dinner every day, &
then I sleep good at night
don't get to practice much,
just a little at night if
I'm not too tired, but I never
will learn any way.
I love you always, Mother

Stamton, Wed.

Dear Kirby, the Delphi
came this morning, & I looked it
over; great times you are having I
know, I showed the marked piece to
Hedrick & McRee. Well the other
fellow never come at last, backed out
so we have to start all over, & hunt
another one. These three will pay
expenses, so I not going to worry yet.
had a long letter from Mrs Watt
Mel is going to start to Calif on the lot
she never said what part.

They are having big times at the Cy.
banquet to night. There has been no
rain since you left, but its threatening
now, hot again too. tell me how to
address your letters, Mrs Scarborough &
Mrs Jones called up.

I love you, Mother.

LINCOLN AVENUE LUMBER CO.

INCORPORATED

DEALERS IN

Rough and Dressed Lumber, Lime, Lath and Cement

Corner Lincoln Ave. and Atlanta St.

Pasadena, Cal., 9-5-12. 191

Mr. Kirby Page,

Houston, Texas.

My dear Brother:-

Accept my thanks for your sincere congratulations and the day was all that could be desired. Indeed it was a day never to be forgotten by me. The folks surprised me with a veritable shower of presents. I received three beautiful ties, two fine pair socks, a silk watch fob including a woman's head set with two sapphire stones and good wishes galore. I was further surprised with a regular birthday dinner. The table contained two cakes, nice flowers and a world of good things to eat. I feel that I am a very fortunate man and the day was quite a happy one. I can hardly realize that time is passing so rapidly and yet I feel much older than I really am. I can remember quite vividly, as though it were yesterday, the Saturdays when we played ball, "black-man", "dare-base", "bunkun" etc. I also remember the days when we sawed wood for \$2. per cord, and fought over who should hold the stick with his foot. I have not forgotten the cotton picking season either and the days we hoed corn and cotton for Ben Tomlinson are not hazy. I wonder if you remember when you used to fish all day in the "tanks" that were close at hand. I suppose we both remember the first bicycles we ever had; how hard we worked for them; and how long we waited for them to arrive. The days when I milked cows, tended the calves, fed the horses and the nights when I was roused out of bed in the wee small hours of the morning to unhitch the horse, feed the "critter" and roll the buggy into the shed are not dreams to me either. Those were happy days even though they contained much that was distasteful then. Now we boys have grown into men and have scattered over the face of the earth. It is indeed a strange world and we are queer people that live in it.

I hear from Perry about every week now and he is becoming a "shark" at Checkers. He tells me that he is the champion aboard his ship and plays a large number of games every day. I mailed him my Checker book and told him to

LINCOLN AVENUE LUMBER CO.

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learn all there was in it. He seems to be contented, is in splendid condition physically and writes encouragingly.

I was just thinking as I read your letter that it is possibly the best one you ever wrote me; at least for some time. I have noted the news contained therein with unusual interest and our friends and acquaintances are certainly making places for themselves in the world. It hardly seems possible that so much has happened in the two years since I left Houston. I am glad to learn that Alma has a piano and is taking lessons. It will be quite a joy to her as well as others and you will feel proud of her. Kindly remember us to her.

Mrs. Barnard, Sister, Norma and I spent Labor Day in the mountains. We took a kodak, our lunch and climbed the Mount Lowe trail to the Observatory; going over the same route that the three of us took the day we "hiked" up Mount Lowe. We took some tracts along and I read while the ladies rested. Altogether we had a most delightful day and arrived home safely before 6 P. M.

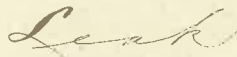
Conditions with us continue about as usual. Business improves and Sister and I both have our hands full at the office. We have about sixty chickens, another litter of rabbits and the garden surpasses our fondest expectations. We will have over one hundred fruit jars filled before the season is over. Our reading and Bible study goes on uninterruptedly. We are all well and harmony prevails.

I have ordered eight volumes of "The Fundamentals" sent to you. Please advise if you have received them or not. You never said whether you bought or read certain books I recommended to you in the past.

Norma joins me in best wishes and mamma and Sister ask to be remembered. I hope that your next year in College will be all that you could wish for. Write me whenever you have time. May God bless and keep you.

Lovingly,

ALP-IPE



DRAKE UNIVERSITY

DES MOINES, IOWA.

RICHARD GARFIELD COX
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS
CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT FOR TEACHERS

October 8 1912

My dear Mother:-

I was out in the country over Sunday and surely did have a fine time. We are having some of the most delightful weather you ever heard of. The leaves are just beginning to turn brown and things look mighty nice out in the woods. I had a good long ride in an automobile Sunday morning and Monday morning I walked three miles along a country. The air was so pure and fresh that I felt like a millionaire's son when I got to the station. It makes a fellow feel good after being in the city all week.

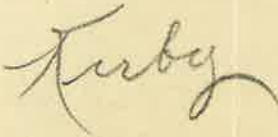
When I got back to town I found five letters waiting for me - two from you, one from Alma, one from Mr Munger, and one from Bellmont. I surely did enjoy reading them all. I am glad that you like your fourth boarder and know that you must enjoy the music. I expect to get moved in a few days now and will get to work on my piano lessons before long. I am glad that you are going around some - keep it up and you will feel better. I am glad that old Perry boy is feeling as well as he is.

I found the enclosed fiver all right and want to thank you so much for it. It is mighty good of you to deprive yourself of things in order to make things easier for me. Some day I will try and reverse things and do a little something for you, after all of your years of labor for me.

The greatest honor that has yet come my way was granted me tonight when I was elected President of the Drake Young Men's Christian Association. This is by far a greater honor and brings with it more responsibility than being President of one's class or most anything else in college activities. It means lots of additional work for me, but it will be of untold value to me in the future when I get out into the work.

Give my best regards to the folks, and don't forget that I love you and am always praying for you.

Lovingly your old boy



Box 86
University Station

Maré Island, Cal.
Sept 28 - 1912

Dear Mother:-

your letter at hand
also one from Leak and Kirby
everything all right with me,
twenty four days to do yet
and will go back to the Station
at Fresno. Fine weather and
I am also feeling fine.

Weight 162 now and nearly
6 feet tall. Bathe twice every
week some times more often.

Kirby is some tennis player
well I guess. I will bet
you that I am larger when
I get out of here than Leak
or Kirby either. Am going to save
all the curios, pictures and cards
I can for they will be nice
for future years. Every one
takes me for at least 22 years

Will not write long any more
while I am in the Navy. Leek
informs me that she will
not have anything to do with
me while in here (the Navy)

But thinks I may have a
chance after I get out.

That remains to be seen.
Should you have some boarders
try to hold out until I get
home and then Koby can
go ahead and get married
for I will be with my Mother
for good. Will save 10⁰⁰
per month if possible for
each month so when I
get paid off will have
about 350⁰⁰ - round old bones

Please send me another
Ho Post (Sundays) if you can
get it without too much trouble
for I enjoy them very much

Take me all ^{your} ^{out} your Times
and troubles and everything.

Wont be so long 2 you
10 mo yet then will be
home for good once more

By By, Love to my Mother
your Boy
P. L. Page

U. S. S. Manilla

Mar Island,

Cal.

1 o'clock P M.

Houston Sept 22 -

Dear Kirby, your
letters keep coming for which
I thank you. Last night
there came up a little weather
& we had to pull up the
covering, nice & cool to-day.

McPee brought up another
man to dinner to-day, & he
thinks he will move in to-
morrow, said if I would
trust him for the money
until he got in a month

work, He teaches Manual
Training in the public schools,
& has taught one week now.
I told him that would be all
right to come on; you know I
can get things from Rehman
on time, but what I hate
is that I cannot send you any-
thing until the three weeks are
out, & you need that underwear
but do the best you can, get
a suit packed out in the middle
of the week, & make the two last
for awhile, Mc Oree is a jolly
good fellow, I like him.

Miss Mason Phoned me Friday
to know if I would go with
her & Miss Williams on Sat
afternoon to the Rice Institute
& I said I would. Well we
had a nice trip rode on to
Bellaire, & got off at the Rice
as we came back, things took
better, but they would not let
us in, so we tramped all
around & pecked in at windows
Two of the Prof's have come, &
registration begins tomorrow,
here is Perry's last letter, Leek's
was about the same, that is all.
Your Tennis Photo came out in

the Post To-day, I think
some one will send you one
from the G - & I want to
send this one to Perry

I met Vickers down at the building
& he asked about you. They are
all howling about how much
they miss you.

believe me, I am going to
have all the work I want. &
I will tell you how I come
out after about a month; soon
as I can tell; I am so glad
you are feeling better, take
it easy at first, & keep well,
Love to my Dear Mother,

Hauston, Sept 28 -

Dear Kirby, I hear that your
side got pushed over in the
contest, though you never told
me: well that is nothing you got
honor enough in being elected
President of your class, every one
is telling it to the other fellows,
I'm proud of you, but fearful
of how you are going to keep
up with a full course, how can
you get time to work enough.

my fourth boarder has not
yet appeared, but I presume she
will in time, I will be able
to pay all bills on the 1st, so
there is really nothing to worry
about, only I wanted to help you,
say Kirby don't let me upset you
but I have just got to unburden
my mind, I am so afraid I have
spoiled your life. I know if
I had not made a fuss, that
you would have married Ivy,
& then you & Leah would have
been together & more happy, &
I never can quit worrying over

it, & I am afraid you will never
be satisfied, for Gods sake find
out your own mind before you
make a fatal mistake, don't
let my feelings stand in your way
I have made so many mistakes
that I am afraid to do or say
any-thing, but I know that
some thing has been troubling
you, & I don't want to feel that
I am to blame for it, & say; I
am almost in the notion of
selling out, say about Dec', then
I could help you & avoid the
expense of winter; I intended
to leave here any way before

time for Perry to come home,
& if you want to; & can so
arrange to get work in Los
angeles during vacation, why
I would go on out there, not to
stay with Leach, but I could
see him some time, & you would
not have to feel so bad another
summer, I might work my way
out with some one, & I know I
could make a living over there,
but this ^{is} only more of my raving,
so take it for what it is worth,
but I am so unhappy away from
all of my boys, but I am well
& all right. I love you Mother.

Houston, 17th

Dear Kirby, I forgot
to ask you where to send a
letter until you were settled,
so I am sending this in care
of Dear Kirk. I rec'd your
card, I am feeling fairly well.
Mr Godfrey & Mr Munger
came up awhile Sunday night.
to cheer me up a little & ask
about boarders. & to-day Mr
Munger brought Mr Gree
up to see the room, he promises
to move in to-morrow.

I we will get some else in
with him as soon as possible
I have disobeyed you already,
for I have promised to board
them for five fifty per week.
but just wait a little while.
& I will make them come up
fifty ct. Hedrick & Snyder
started in yesterday.

I got me single iron bed &
springs, & tomorrow I want to
go down & hunt up another.

not a letter from any one since
you left, & no other callers.
I am going to get along, & I
hope you can too. love, Mother.

Maru Island, Cal.
Sept 14, 1912.

Mrs. J. S. Page,
Houston, Texas.

Dear Mother:-
your letter at hand and
also one from Leak. Everything
O.K. with me. Nothing new
here same old thing over each
day. Leak is doing fine so
he writes, every thing as good
as could be expected. he
has fine garden. orchids, chickens
and a large bunch of rabbits.

Ivy is still at Pasadena
with them. as for the 60 days
extra duty whip it is work here

on the island. I have 22
days in now. Clothes they
furnish me here until
I get restored to duty.
I won't get any pay
for about 3 months yet
so the stamps come in
handy otherwise I could
not write. Feeling fine
and in the best of health
weigh 162 now. The Books
were good - Received one
book from Leask and with
papers get some reading
anyhow. Kirby is gone by
this time I guess as you

are alone again - Well I will
be home some day any how
so you may look forward
to that. Keep well and
enjoy yourself all you can,

Thanks for all your letters

By By,

your Boy,

P. L. Page

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P. M.

U. S. S.

March

how about my lot
are the taxes
paid on it.
may be
worth some
thing
some
day.

August 10 1912

My dear old Perry:-

I have been wanting to write you for a couple of weeks but did not know just where to address you. I received your telegram from Portland all right and immediately wired Mr Harry Stone, General Secretary at Portland, to get in touch with you and see what he could do for you. I had heard a great deal of Mr Stone and knew him to be a fine Christian gentleman and I was sure he would do anything he could to help you out. I thought this would be of more assistance to you than any money that I might have sent.

You don't know how glad I was to hear from mother this afternoon that you had gone back to the navy. It was the only thing for you to do, as they would have found you sooner or later and this would have meant two years additional service with no pay. I had a talk with the recruiting officer here and he said that if your conduct was good from now on you would get off pretty light. The next few months will be pretty hard for you but you will be better off in the end.

Mother has been terribly worried about you since we heard that you had skipped the country. I wish you could only realize just how much she really loves you and how anxious she is for your welfare and comfort. After receiving your letter she was so sorry for you that she wanted to send you some money, but I persuaded her that it would not be best for you. You may be having a hard time and I have no doubt but that you need some money pretty badly, but there are some things you need more than you need money just now, old fellow. The thing you need most of all is self control and a proper realization of the fact that always, sooner or later, a man must reap what he sows. If mother and I thought that it was really best for you we would gladly send you money even if we had to go without things ourselves, and I believe you realize this. You have broken one of Uncle Sam's laws and you must pay the penalty - no one can do it for you - and the better you take your medicine the better it will be for you in the long run.

I am really sincerely, Perry, when I say that the course I am pursuing is for your good, although it may look selfish and unsympathetic to you now. We are more than anxious to do what we can, but we are convinced that it is up to you to work out your own welfare just now.

I hope you will carry out your suggestion about collecting souvenirs everywhere you go. It surely will be an interesting and valuable collection, as you will probably see a lot of different countries during the next few years. Why don't you start a post card album of different scenes that you visit? Mother and I would be glad to have cards showing the different places you pass through. You ought also to be able to pick up a number of valuable additions to your stamp collection.

I am glad that you are keeping in touch with the naval Y M C A . The Secretaries are usually mighty fine men and are always ready to help you when they can. Don't hesitate to go to them when in trouble. They will meet you more than half way every time. Did you get to see Mr Stone personally, and how did you like him?

Mother and I took a ride out on the new car line to Belaire, the new town about four miles from South End. The Rice Institute expects to open in September and it is barely possible that I will go there instead of going back to Drake. Can not tell for a week or so yet. Will let you know how I decide.

Houston has been playing some ball this year and leads the league, with San Antonio a close second, Waco third and Dallas fourth. I have only seen a couple of games, although we fellows here at the Association have a pass and can go without it costing us anything.

It has been mighty hot down here and I am getting so lazy that I don't want to do a thing but just loaf. This is somewhat different from 35 degrees below zero, believe me.

Alma and I are certainly enjoying ourselves these days. We have been engaged over two years and a half and have never had a quarrel yet. She expects to get a raise on the first to either \$90.00 or 100.00 per month. She wishes to be remembered very kindly to you.

It is nearly midnight, so I must quit now and go home and sleep a while. I always pray for you before I go to sleep. I know the good Lord will protect and bless you and that things will be better for you after a while. I love you, old boy, and shall be glad to have a good long letter from you.

Your brother

NIGHT LETTER

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

25,000 OFFICES IN AMERICA INCORPORATED CABLE SERVICE TO ALL THE WORLD
ROBERT C. CLOWRY, PRESIDENT BELVIDERE BROOKS, GENERAL MANAGER

RECEIVER'S No.

TIME FILED

CHECK

SEND the following **NIGHT LETTER** subject to
the terms on back hereof which are hereby agreed to }

July 27 1912

Mr H W Stone General Secretary
Young Men's Christian Association
Portland Oregon

Perry Page, brother of one of our Secretaries deserted
naval training station Frisco. Wires brother for money
to be sent care Association Portland. Brother wants you
to see boy and persuade him to voluntarily return navy.
If he refuses turn him over to authorities. By no means
allow him to escape.

I E Munger

(Association Building)

LINCOLN AVENUE LUMBER Co.

INCORPORATED

DEALERS IN

Rough and Dressed Lumber, Lime, Lath and Cement**Corner Lincoln Ave. and Atlanta St.***Pasadena, Cal.,* _____ 191—

the last few days has been the piano. We bought one, had an opportunity to secure a new one cheap, \$350. instrument for \$185. and did so. It is a Weser Bros. make in modern case, green oak finish, and has a splendid tone. The bass especially rings out so rich and deep. Thought we should rent one for summer but could get this at \$10. down and \$6. a month. We will have it now and Norma will start taking lessons soon; who knows but I may learn myself some time. Sister is crazy about it, can hardly get away from it all day long. She says it is a fine piano and good bargain. Ruth Ellis has been with us three days this week, away at evening, and she and Sister sing together a lot. Norma is overhauling her wardrobe and making up lot of clothes. The diamonds are paid for, furniture almost, and we will never have one unless we wade in, so in we went. Nearly all our friends play and it will be a source of much comfort and pride to own one and have it all the time. We all sang and had music until 10 last night; nothing but hymns.

Time is short today, must close. I wish you well. Eyes are better since I have the glasses. Feel "bully."

Lovingly,

A. Leak.



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JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT
R. F. ISBELL, SECTY AND TREAS.

P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, April 26, 1912.

Dearest:

Am just having the time of my life. All the bosses are either gone or contemplate going and work is getting so slack that we cant fine enough to take up our time and all are getting so lazy and talkative that it is perfectly scandalous the amount of work we don't accomplish. Mr. Dawson has just made me a proposition to care for an incubator for him. He will buy the incubator, furnish the Indian Runner duck eggs and I tend to the thing and get half of the ducks. I told him I thought it would go.

I played Croquet at Lena's the other evening again, with her cousin and we came out first place again. Tell you, we are some players. We finished up soon and got to talking so earnestly that mother looked over and saw us and became very much agitated over the fact, not knowing the existing circumstances, and was very much afraid that you would be left out pretty soon, but when I came home I assured her that everything was all right and she was satisfied. It seems that Hortense and W.S. intended getting married this spring, but have had to postpone the occurrence until next year, so you see we are not the only unfortunate ones.

Just six more weeks.

Yours ever,

Alma





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HIGH GRADE COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS

P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, April 29, 1912.

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETY AND TREAS.

Sweetheart:

Well, I was a bad girl yesterday and didn't go to Sunday School. Instead, I went to San Jacinto Battle Ground with Lena Gordon and a crowd, although Willie S. was not along, to my sorrow, as he was not invited to go for fear Hortense would have seventy 'leven fits. I had a very nice time, although I had too much dinner and got a headache, and cured another girl of the headache by rubbing her head until she went to sleep. Mine didn't get bad until we were coming home. Medora Miller, Lena's chum and myself were the only poor kids that couldn't find a partner, so we were partners. Nevertheless, we had a good time.

I took the kids all out to the woods again Saturday evening and let them run wild for a while, and believe me, they sure did. I rode Dick and let them walk, as I wanted Dick to have a time too. They all seemed to enjoy themselves. I had promised to take them to the Park yesterday if they would be good, but changed my mind and went with Lena, so guess I will have to fulfill my promise next week. I have a grand time with them and they seem to think I am the candy kid. Guess we can let them run around the woods with us when you come home. It will look much better than if we went alone and they will all enjoy it and not bother us at all.

Yours ever,

Alma

CARBON
COPY
RETAINED

DRAKE UNIVERSITY

DES MOINES, IOWA.

SHERMAN KIRK
DEAN, COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

April 30 1912

Dearest mother:-

These are mighty busy days for me. It seems as if things pile up pretty fast along toward the close of the school year. Am putting in every spare minute I have doing stenographic work. Have no trouble whatever in getting all the work I can do. Then too, this is the time of year when a fellow gets lazy and loves to loaf around.

Mother dear, you can hardly realize how lonesome I get sometimes. I am trying hard to keep cheerful, but it is a pretty hard pull sometimes. Once in a while I get the blues and feel just as if I would like to take a good cry. Everything has gone extremely well with me and Jack and I get along the finest kind, but nothing can

DRAKE UNIVERSITY

DES MOINES, IOWA.

SHERMAN KIRK
DEAN, COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

2

take the place of mother and home. I am eagerly counting the days until I can be with you.

As to the something good I have to tell you, it is no one particular thing, but just a good long talk with you about what I have been doing and about our plans for the future. I surely do love to think about what is before me, of the things I shall do when I am through school. It does seem hard to put in four years at school, but there is no question but that it will be best in the long run.

The more I think about it, the more I am convinced that we would be happier if we were here together.

Officers

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Wm. D. Cleveland, Jr., Vice-President
H. L. Mitchell, Treasurer
H. C. Breaker, Recording Secretary
S. F. Carter, Treasurer Building Fund

Young Men's Christian Association

Houston, Texas

Fannin and McKinney Telephone Preston 1234

I. E. Munger, General Secretary

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Roy B. Henderson, Associate Director of Physical Work
W. P. Campsey, Associate Director of Physical Work
C. P. Younts, Religious Work Director
E. O. Garrett, Office Secretary
H. A. Lee, Office Secretary
R. C. Steele, Restaurant Manager

May 1 1912

Mr Kirby Page

Drake University

Des Moines Iowa

My dear Kirby:-

You will recall that I had invited you to room with me this summer when you came home. Your good mother is so painfully conscientious that she objects to it thinking that it might disturb Father or be too much for Mother, so I am writing to say that if she does not want you to do that, Mr Steele has kindly offered to let you room with him here in the Building.

I thought I would let you know this, although you possibly know that your mother wishes to give up her work with us as soon as you come because she insists that she wants to go home and be with you. Any way that you and she adjust the matter will be entirely agreeable to me, as I want only the best thing to be done.

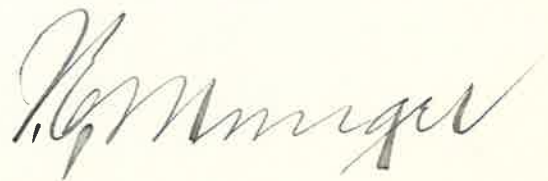
We had a good Men's Meeting in the Prince Theater building last Sunday with 900 men out, 31 conversions and 9 expressed a desire to put in their church letters.

I enclose a letter about Father.

Sincerely yours

Enclosure

IEM/MLM



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Wm. D. Cleveland, Jr., Vice-President
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Young Men's Christian Association

Houston, Texas

Fannin and McKinney Telephone Preston 1234

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H. A. Lee, Office Secretary
R. C. Steele, Restaurant Manager

May 1 1912

Dear Friend:-

It is six months since Father's operation, and, though still in bed and suffering much pain, he keeps very cheerful and we have much for which to be thankful.

We have a good nurse and Mother keeps up remarkably well, although the strain on her is very great. The doctors give us no hope of any permanent improvement and tell us that there may be a sudden turn for the worse at any time.

Father's seventieth birthday will be on May 16, and I am asking his friends to give him a postal card shower. Would you not like to send him a picture postal card with birthday greetings,- nothing more? His days and nights are very long. I think it would cheer him up very much. Nothing could have pleased Mother more than the postal card shower she received last year.

Mother joins me in love.

Sincerely yours

I E Munger

Address
Mr I C Munger
3325 Morrison Avenue
Houston Texas



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USE A.B.C. CODES-4TH & 5TH EDITIONS.

FIDELITY COTTON OIL & FERTILIZER CO.

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JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETY AND TREAS.

P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, May 2, 1912.

Sweetheart:

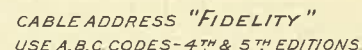
Well, What do you think, I wrote three letters yesterday, just think of it, three whole letters, and all within three hours. that is all I worked yesterday, but have managed to put in pretty near full time today as Mr. Isbell is back. However, expect Mr. J.D. Sr. will go off about Sunday and then it will be almost as bad, but Mr. Isbell can always find something for us to do now and then, if it is only to write some duns.

Lena and Gene have been fussing ever since Sunday which I suppose is they way they gnerally do after going anywhere with a crowd. It makes me sick the way that boy treats her, and I sure do wish they would break up, and I don't think it will be very long, before they do, as he is now going with another, girl, although she doesn't know it. Tom Newman said that he had fooled two or three other girls the same way, and his mother had to get the ring back from the last girl under pretense that they were all sick and needed money, or something like that.

Just five more weeks, and then _____ Oh dear.

Yours,

Alma



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P.O.DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, May 4, 1912.

This is Saturday noon and it is raining. It is also my afternoon to work. I am not going home to lunch as it is too bad looking and I don't want to get wet. Guess the boys will let me eat with them, or at least the ones here, as Val and Dan are on their way to Fidelity with the payroll.

I have promised the kids that I will take them to the Park tomorrow evening, Robbin Gordon going with me, but if this keeps up I guess I will postpone the trip. It sure looks like the bolltom is going to come out of the sky, and perhaps a little wind along with it. We need the rain and no doubt about that, but it is so inconvenient. It was too dusty to live decently and the gardens were dry.

Just 36 days more, think of it.

Your baby girl,

— 22 — 5/1/9

Alma





MANUFACTURERS OF
COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS
IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN
AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS
P.O. DRAWER M

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

Houston, Texas, May 6, 1912.

Sweetheart o' mine:

Thus two more days have ended since I wrote you last, and it is two more days nearer tie time for me to see my baby boy again.

I trust and hope and pray that it will be pretty weather when you do get here. It is clear today, but oh my, since Saturday it has rained even some, Allston street has been a perfect islandless river twice and everything just tries to see how floatable it is. We went to Sunday school yesterday morning and liked never to have gotten home, however, finally did manage it.

I really ~~have~~ earned my living today, and hope I shall have time to look around tomorrow, but prospects are dim.

Yours ever and ever,

Alma

DRAKE UNIVERSITY

DES MOINES, IOWA.

SHERMAN KIRK
DEAN, COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

3

and things may work out so that you can be here with me another year. Shouldn't you like to do this?

I can hardly wait for the next 40 days to go by, I am so anxious to see you and talk a lot of these things over together with you. Won't we be happy though?

With lots of love to my dear patient mother, I am

Most lovingly yours

Kirby

Please tell Mr Munges that I will look up the YMCA membership matter just as soon as I can find a few minutes, and will be glad to send him whatever I may be able to obtain.

Des Moines, Iowa, 5/8 1912

my own dearest mother:-

If I am not mistaken this letter will reach you on the day before "Mother's Day". I wish that this special day did not come for another month, so that I could tell you personally how much I love and honor you, but since I can not be with you just yet, we will have to be satisfied with letter writing.

Since I have been away from you I have learned to value more highly than ever the excellent home training that I received. It is not so very hard for me to resist certain petty temptations, such as wasting time & money by going

Des Moines, Iowa, _____ 191

to shows, dances and things of this nature, and I am sure that if you had not given us boys such a careful training, I would not refrain from these things and even sins of a more evident grossness!

If I ever amount to anything at all in this world, the credit for my success will be due you in a very large measure, and I am striving hard to make something of myself, for I realize that in this way I can give you most happiness. I love and honor you for your self sacrificing disposition and for the many, many things

Des Moines, Iowa, _____ 191

you always done for us boys, and
I shall try to repay you in a
small measure this summer and in
the years to come by being more
thoughtful of your comfort than I
have been in the past.

I love you mother dear and
can hardly wait until I can
see you again. Only 32 days.

Most lovingly your old boy

Kirby



FIDELITY CHEMICAL CORPORATION

MANUFACTURERS OF
COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS
IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN
AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS
P.O. DRAWER M

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

Houston, Texas, May 8, 1912.

Sweetheart:

I have been working very hard all day, and will have a good job tomorrow that will keep me at least ~~xi~~ half a day, but then I think I will be finished with such things and have only just a little bit hereafter.

We got a hammock today and guess it will be some fun to see who gets to it first when times like today are finished. Dan has already taken a nap in it at noon. But just ~~what~~, and I will show them who will get a chance to rest when the others have to work. The boys get their chance at noon, and I get mine in the afternoon. We didn't let the widow in on it. We all hope that she will fly pretty soon, and as Mr. D. is getting somewhat tired of her, or seems to be, it may happen some day. Heres hoping, as I just simply can't spend another year with ~~her~~ her and risk the loss of all the temper and good breeding that I have had.

Saw Ivy. Sunday and she tells me they don't start for California until about June first. Says she hears regularly from Perry but does not answer any of his letters. (?) Sounds funny though. How does he keep up with her address? by Leake? That would take some time.

32 more days, then Hurrah for my BOY.
Yours ever, *Alma*



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P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, May 10, 1912.

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETY AND TREAS.

My dear Kirby:

Now don't turn up your nose, because it is so, we just had another flood today, however, it looks much better now, I mean the sky, and hope it will continue so for a week at least or anyway two or three days.

Uncle Will came down night before last and brought a basket full of dewberries, and daddy and Wilfred are going up there Saturday night to come back Sunday evening with some more. They were the finest, great big ones, such as only the Brasos bottom can produce. Mother is preserving the most of them, so you may get a taste of them.

I get my vacation of the 20th, and you must send all letters to the house that will reach here after the 18th inst. I may go to Navasota about the 26th, want to go very much and do intend to go if nothing happens. i.e. I wrote them a letter and will go if they answer it, otherwise I suppose I will have to cast around for somewhere else to go.

THEN I will get back about the 9th and find my great big Baby boy there. Won't that be fine?

Yours ever and ever.,

Alma



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R. F. ISBELL, SECY AND TREAS.

P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS,

May 13, 1912.

Sweetheart:

What do you think I did yesterday? Why I went over to Woodland again. Your mother seems to be getting along very nicely except for the fact that she is somewhat worried over Perry as she has not heard from him for about three weeks. I told her I would not worry as he was probably sulking about something or other. She says she will go back home about the first, or perhaps before. Old man Munger looks rather bad. She took me up to see him yesterday. He has hopes of getting well though, and talks of what he will do when he does.

Daddy and Bill brought home two baskets full of berries and mother is making preserves and Jelly. She will have about two dozen jars altogether, if not more, or to be more some more than six gallons. Don't talk about eating !!! Oh, No. Am going to try to get off soon and go and get some green grapes. That is what I love too. (and you)

All of our crowd is away from the Heights now except the Wyatts, and Anna and I went to Endeavor yesterday and had to come home alone, and there were so many young fellows from all over the country here attending the convention.

Yours faithfully,

Alma



MANUFACTURERS OF
COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS
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AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS
P.O. DRAWER M

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

Houston, Texas, May 15, 1912.

Sweetheart:

Time is going by so fast now that I get behind the time counting it. I sure will be glad when there will be no more counting. Just think of it!

I am going to Navasota on the 26th, so you might send any letters that will reach me about that time to that place, care O. M. Heard. I will not get back to Houston until about the time you get there, so that will be the last change I will make in my movements hereafter. I have already told you to send letters to the house. for the week I will be there. You must not look for many letters from me after I leave here as I will not have anything to write on., that it any machine, and longhand writing is very laborious and I forget all I can say before I get it started to going on the paper.

We had a real winter morning today. Everyone started out with big coats on, and I tell you they felt good too. I went to town, this being pay day, and promptly bought out everything, or at least bought out myself in the money line. I never will get my bills paid. But you never will know me when I get my new duds on either. I am just simply going to dress, and you will have to make up for lost time and take the dresses out to parade.

Yours ever and ever,

Alma



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P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, May 18, 1912.

Sweetheart:

Today is my last working day in this month. My vacation starts Monday, or rather this evening. Suppose I will work part of the afternoon if not all, but don't know what on. Mother goes down to League City tomorrow and will probably stay a day or two, then come back and I will go to Navasota on Sunday the 26th or probably Saturday and stay until about the 5th or 6th and she will then go to League again and stay longer. I will be chief cook and dishwasher, maid of all work and amuser of the kids. Will also have to replenish my wardrobe. I sure have got some work to do on the machine and don't see how on earth I shall ever get it all done. You must not expect much from me hereafter, but will try to send a line or two as often as possible.

Tell Jack not to get Spring Fever too bad and let it prove fatal to him. Tell him I give the warning in all sincerity and for him to wait a while so he won't have a time like we have had and are having.

With lots of love, I am

Yours,

Alma

Rio Grande Plantation Company

HOUSTON, TEXAS McALLEN, TEXAS

May 18 1912

My Dear Kirby: - It is late Saturday

night - just a word to thank you
for your letter rec'd today about
Des Moines Membership Campaign, also
your other good letters.

Mr. Fred Brasted leaves left
tonight for Des Moines and when
you read this he will no doubt
be in the Hotel Savery, - he
is Vice-President of the
Northern Baptist convention. Be
sure + bring him up + call on
him. He will be there Tues Wed + Thurs.

We all (the force + ladies) go
on a picnic to San Jacinto Battleground
next Thursday. Wish you were here.
How do you like our letter head? With love Pen

He appreciated his postal show to much
on his birthday - had about 200. Pen

10. 1. 1911.

I made some ginger
cakes for the kids yesterday,
and honest to goodness, they
were eatable.

I shall have a surprise
for you when you come back
but will not tell you, so
you must not ask. See?

Mrs. Lockhart said
something about a position
Dr. T. had that he would
like for you to consider, and
which paid a handsome salary.
Has he said anything to you
about it?

I don't know what the
work will be or anything about
it, so can't judge which position
will be best.

Yours truly,
Alma

May 21 - 12
Dearest Hicky.

Now don't scold me because the postman only comes to get the letters just once a day, and no one goes to town. I am chief cook and housekeeper and seamstress and anything else you can imagine.

Mother went to Cleo's Sunday and will not be back until tonight. I had a row with Johnnie Sunday evening trying to make her understand I was boss, and although it resulted in a very unpleasant evening and a very severe headache for me, I am reasonably sure that I won out. You know how a kid is at her age.

Wednesday 22nd

Darkest!

Am enjoying the luxury of staying at home with mother at the helm. she got home yesterday evening. Will have to do some strenuous work on the sewing machine to get away from here Sunday. don't even like I have done a thing so far.

Went to the woods today with the kids and got some green grapes for preserving.

Got a letter from Foster Loggins today. I think he would like to cut you out and I might be able to make some use of him on my trip.

What day will you leave there as I will know when to stop writing. I am sure will be glad when you really get here.

Yours
Alma

LINCOLN AVENUE LUMBER Co.

INCORPORATED

DEALERS IN

Rough and Dressed Lumber, Lime, Lath and Cement

Corner Lincoln Ave. and Atlanta St.

Pasadena, Cal., 5-25-1912.

191

Dear Mother:-

I have had 2 letters from Perry in a week and he is doing well. We have much to be thankful for in the good change in him. Let us pray that he may do even still better.

Kirby will be with you very shortly now I remember and I know that it will be a time of rejoicing. My, how the two of you will talk over things and plan for the future. I am wondering if it will not prove to be the best thing for you to return to Des Moines with him. Best wishes whatever you decide to do. I hope that you will decide aright.

Had it ever occurred to you that possibly Mrs. Eicke may have thought that the man her daughter married was not good enough for her and that she ought to cast her off because of the association and union? Would you resent such action if you knew it to be the case? I tell you frankly that Norma is a finer woman than I am a man. I consider I am the luckiest fellow in the world to have been able to be the successful wooer. You know there were 4 or 5 others and I was last man to appear on the scene. They all seemingly had the advantage of me but I did not consider anything but that I was determined to win her. Mrs. Eicke would hardly consent at all to allow me to bring her to Calif. and this was not possible when we married; only after a year in the house with them and she had learned to know and love me. Instead of losing her daughter, as she could have done by casting her off, she has gained a good son and retained the favorite daughter. What if there is distance between them. Do you consider Perry and Kirby lost because a few hundred miles intervenes between you and them? Only her own action could lose her daughter for her and she was wise enough to look at it accordingly. Is any application necessary?

The lilies you mention must have been lovely and I am sure the old gentleman was pleased and enjoyed the day. It is a privilege indeed to be allowed to reach the allotted three score and ten years. I hope you may be able to and even go far beyond this age. You know as a little fellow I used to pray that "Papa would live to be 80 years old and Mamma 80 years old and me 75 years old."

We remember the Roff's quite well. Please remember us very kindly to them should you have the chance.

LINCOLN AVENUE LUMBER Co.

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Rough and Dressed Lumber, Lime, Lath and Cement

Corner Lincoln Ave. and Atlanta St.

Pasadena, Cal., _____ 191_____

I want to tell you what a genius Norma is with carpenter's tools. You remember that I was never very good with them. We moved Doris's old swing so that it is now in rear of new room, quite close up. Well, Norma designed a porch swing and together we executed it. As finished it is 4 feet wide, room for two of us easily, seat is some 16 or 17 inches deep, with sides and nice high back, with an adjustable control so we can slant it as desired. Stained it brown to match inside woodwork and it is a regular beauty. Is as good as a \$10. one, much more to our liking, and only cost us about 50¢ besides what we had on hand. I think she is a wonder and we have nothing but good times.

We have two hens with little chicks, two setting on turkey eggs and two on chicken eggs. Will probably set still another one today. I buy finest Plymouth Rock hen with setting of eggs for \$1. from Mrs. Beck here. Extra settings of Plymouth Rock eggs cost only 25¢. A snap. Rabbits are all doing well, others expected soon and intend to have two or three more start very soon now. We have 5 outside hydrants now since we added another one at back door-steps. All truck is growing fine and we eat berries from our bushes every other day. Real good for first year. I weeded lawn yesterday for first time and it looks nice. Altogether we are pleased with our home and efforts for the time we have been here. Moved in October 1st you know.

I am in finest kind of health and chest stands out something like Oby Bowers used to. Really I am developing fine muscles and getting larger every way. I thought I would always be a "razor-back" but it seems different now. Weight remains 169# and I feel good all the time.

I wish you the best of things and sincerely hope that your health and frame of mind may continue good. I shall think only kindly towards you and would ask the same in return. Even though we differ on things I do not see why we should disagree or have quarrels and strivings. We are reading and studying heavy literature now and getting in touch with things that are really worth while. I am glad to hear from you at all times. May God bless you.

Lovingly,

Leak

May 27-12

Sweetheart:

Reached here an hour and
a half late yesterday and
had such a good time that
couldn't find a minute to
write to you. Have proposed
to all the boys I have seen
including all my forty seventh
cousins but haven't passed
the danger mark yet.

Am going riding this
evening on horseback and
probably buggy riding tomorrow
evening.

Had chicken for dinner
yesterday but was so hungry
that couldn't eat any for you
as I wanted it all myself.

One of my forty seventh cousins
came by this morning to tell
me how sweet I looked in
my new house dress. Too bad
it will have to be washed and
fade before you can see it.

Expect I will get a
letter from you today
but no one has been to the
postoffice as yet.

Don't work too hard
before you leave, but remember
what I said about the
"Fat man".

Yours ever -

May 29-12

My dearest:

Am just having a fine
time. Take a long rest in the
afternoons and will be good
and restive and lazy when
I get home but suppose will
get tired again as will have
the house to clean thoroughly
as mother will not be able
to do much.

Will leave here on the
5th of June, Wednesday, so you

need not write any more
here, if any more at all.

I am not very good at gauging
time and suppose I should
have told you this in the last
letter.

Will write you only one more
and then wait for you.

Yours ever

Alma.

LINCOLN AVENUE LUMBER Co.

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DEALERS IN

Rough and Dressed Lumber, Lime, Lath and Cement**Corner Lincoln Ave. and Atlanta St.***Pasadena, Cal.,* 7-13-1912.

191

My dear Mother:-

I was surprised a little to learn that you have a bunch of boarders again and know it must be hot work. I do hope you will not break down under the strain and heat. It was my understanding that you were resting for the summer. Surely Kirby is a joy to you and his presence means much. He writes me that he is coming along nicely every way.

The weather is fine out here, simply glorious. Mornings are cool and invigorating and all is pleasant. We are all well and continue to abound in good spirits and contentment. No discord or strife in our home at all. Business affairs assume a tangled state, his own domestic affairs, and do not know where it will end. I am his best friend and we stick close. Trouble between Beck and wife. That is why my work is so heavy; carry his end of it too.

There really is nothing to write you for each week runs largely as did the preceding one. It is steady work, though congenial, perfect home life, lots of reading and studying, work with classes on Sunday, good health and enjoyable times with the home folks. Mamma and Sis improve. We are playing some "42" now but the chief attraction for

KIRBY PAGE, PRESIDENT
HOUSTON

E. A. HUNGERFORD, VICE-PRESIDENT
DALLAS

H. E. CRATE,
SHERMAN

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W. B. WELCH,	Palestine
P. H. LENOIR,	Dallas
O. C. ECKLEY,	Dallas
T. J. COOR,	Mart
C. H. BROWN,	El Paso
H. L. MITCHELL,	El Paso
C. D. WOLF,	San Antonio
W. E. DANIELS,	Beaumont
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H. E. HOKE	Waco

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Young Men's Christian Association
Training School

LAKE GENEVA, WISCONSIN

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H. L. CRATE,	Hous.
ROY B. HENDERSON,	Houston
E. B. JACKSON,	Fort Worth
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MRS. L. C. HARDIE,	Fort Worth
MRS. P. H. LENOIR,	Dallas
G. B. RICHARDSON,	Palestine
P. H. LEONHARDT,	Chicago
C. H. JOHNSON,	Chicago

7.
as though I am always getting more
than is coming to me in this old
world.

Jack and I are getting along
together in great shape. I think
more of him than any other friend
I have. He is a dandy good fellow
in every way.

am glad to notice that you may
be advertising manager next year. That
is about what I would expect of
you, Alma dear. I hope you get it.

Goodnight my darling wife
and may God bless and watch
over you. I love you sweetheart.

Forever your

Kirby

Oct 10 1910

KIRBY PAGE, PRESIDENT
HOUSTON

E. A. HUNGERFORD, VICE-PRESIDENT
DALLAS

H. E. CRATE, SECRETARY
SHERMAN

M. R. SHELTON, . . . Palestine
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C. H. BROWN, . . . El Paso
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April 4 1912

Mother Dear: -

That cheerful letter that came from you today cheered me up. I am glad to know that everybody is in a fine humor and that the old gentleman is better.

My grades for last quarter are as follows: -

Greek	-	A	- 90-100
Geology	-	A	
Public Speaking	-	A	
Religious Education	-	A	
English	-	B	80-90

I must confess that these grades are better than I had hoped for or than I deserved. It seems as though I am always getting more than is coming to me in this world. I am a fortunate fellow without

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a doubt - best of mothers, best of girls, best of health, best of opportunities. I ought to be mighty thankful for it all, and I am striving to be worthy of it all.

Goodnight mother of mine and may God bless you and watch over you. Love to all.

affectionately your boy
Kirby



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Houston, Texas, April 5, 1912

Dearest boy:

I really don't know what I am going to do with you, but I expect you will find out when you get back here. You write your letters so I get two the first two days of the week and then another the following Saturday, and then there is the whole rest of the week in between. Really, now, what would you advise? We are having some mighty fine weather down here now, and it is really getting very dusty again. Think of it, dust again in Houston. I have my glasses fitted also and am able to see them in a better light without a heavy head.

What is the matter with you and your sports, you don't say so much about them. You don't want to forget that you know how to be a little sport yourself. As for myself, you just don't know how much fun I get out of riding. It is just simply grand, and all the men want to flirt with me. I don't flirt with all of them, only the good looking ones. I am training Dickie just fine, and he turns his heels to all the men, but I will try to induce him to let you pet him when you come home, which I am sure he will. I get off early enough to go home and play with the baby chickens now and you can just imagine how I enjoy it.

Yours ever,

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April 6 1912

My dear Mother:-

Tomorrow is Easter Sunday, and I expect to go to a sunrise prayer meeting at the church. Now I will enjoy it and get great good from it. By the way, tomorrow will be eight years since I united with the church.

My term of office as president of Loyalty is almost out - in fact a nominating committee is now at work selecting the new officers. They came to me yesterday to find out if I would consider another term. I informed them that I would be out of town every other Sunday between now and Commencement, and further that I would be out of town all summer, and still further that I expected to be out of the city almost every Sunday next fall when I do get back in school, and for these reasons could not consider it. They came to me again today and said that after

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2.
Considering these things and talking it over with Bro. Medbury, the pastor, they had decided to ask me to accept it for another term. I then had a long talk with Bro. Medbury and went over the whole proposition with him. He was kind enough to say some mighty nice things about me and my work. He said they had canvassed the field thoroughly and were unable to find just the proper person for the place. He said that there were lots of good capable men, but that they could not find just the person that had the personality and qualities of leadership that were necessary in the president to make a success of the work. He further stated that he felt that I could get better results, even though about a great deal of the time, than could be obtained by any other available candidate.

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5

It is now midnight and I think
I will turn in and rest ~~so~~ a while.
I have no doubt I shall "sleep the
sleep of the just."

Good night, mother of mine,
and may God watch over and bless
you. Sweet dreams to you.

Yours lovingly
Kirby

Love to all.

I have never been in the house you are in
now, although I have passed by it.

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Rough and Dressed Lumber, Lime, Lath and Cement**Corner Lincoln Ave. and Atlanta St.***Pasadena, Cal.,* 4-6-1912. 191

Dear Mother:—

This leaves me in good shape and feeling like a prince. The new room and back porch is ready to plaster and this will be done Monday. Then, nothing to do but put on inside finish and it will be ready for us to stain and put down matting and move in. We are fortunate in getting an excellent job, although I believe the contractor will lose a little money on the job. He took it cheap and we are well satisfied. The addition changes to a great extent the appearance and is all for the better. I will have roof treated with a black mineral weather and fire-proof paint, guaranteed for 5 years, and the sides will have to wait a while. This roof paint matches what is on the other part. We bought another mother rabbit and 9 little ones this morning, this doubles the bunny family and prospects are good for more increase right along. They are certainly fine to eat, had one last Sunday and will right along now; better than chicken. Also bought an old hen and setting of eggs and put one of our own to setting so this makes two hens setting now. Strawberries are blooming, and everything growing rapidly. The lawn begins to look respectable and think it will be fine in a few months more. We are busy as bees day and night, work all the time. Happy too! Hope to add wash basin to bathroom, medicine case with mirror in door, put down linoleum in bath, screen porch and kitchen, purchase

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fine rug for front room, put old one in old bedroom, get new curtains up, renovate entire house, regular spring cleaning, all in the next two weeks. Will enamel the bath room in white, all over, add another rocker and dresser to new room, also table, and have things like we want them more. It takes time and will be a year or more before we have all we would like but we will keep at it and eventually get there. Ruth Ellis, formerly of Houston, spent a day with us this week. Norma keeps busy sewing, finished an Easter dress today for which she gets \$10. We are all bustle and excitement over our new house and look forward to the time when Mamma and Sister will arrive. This is an ideal spring day, warm and pleasant, and I wish you could enjoy one just like it!

I still keep a set of books down town and get all our clothes cleaned and pressed that way free, Norma's fine dresses too. All the little extras help out wonderfully. Mr. Beck paid all the taxes on our place last year. When I asked him how much my share was of the total he said "We will let that go for good behaviour."

Time to run and eat now so must go. Best wishes as ever and I hope all is well with you. Write me when you can for I love to hear from you. May Our Father bless you richly.

I am well and very husky, weigh 169# still. All is well with your boy and I feel like shouting, we are so lucky.

Lovingly,



CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS
PUBLISHERS, IMPORTERS AND BOOKSELLERS
153-157 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

RELIGIOUS LITERATURE DEPARTMENT

April 16, 1912.

Mr. Kirby Page,
1336 25th Street,
Des Moines, Iowa.

Dear Sir:

We received your letter of April 9th and have entered your order for a complete set of the "Great Texts of the Bible." We have sent four of the published volumes to you for which you will find a bill enclosed. The other two volumes are temporarily out of stock and we will have a new supply in about two weeks and will send them to you at that time. These published volumes you may pay for in monthly instalments of \$2.00. The remaining volumes we will send to you, one at a time, with bill at \$2.00 each, as published.

Yours truly,
CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS,
Religious Literature Dept.

HAS/cvw

April 9 1912

Messrs Charles Scribner's Sons

153-157 Fifth Avenue

New York City

Gentlemen:-

I am writing for some information in regard to the volumes in the "Great Texts of the Bible" series, by Dr James Hastings. How many volumes of this set have already been published, and does the advance order price of \$2.00 each still hold good? Would it be possible to obtain all the volumes published thus far by paying for them on the installment plan of \$2.00 a month, and pay for the other volumes as they are published? If you care to send the volumes that have already been published and allow me to pay for them at the rate of \$2.00 a month, you may enter my order for one complete set, ^{additional} ~~advance~~ volumes to be paid for as delivered. If you do not care to do this, please enter my order for one volume, Acts-Romans I-VIII., at \$3.00. I will remit for this immediately upon receipt of same.

Yours sincerely

Secretary to Dean of Bible College

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Baby Love: -

April 6 1912

Tomorrow is Easter Sunday and I expect to go to a sunrise prayer meeting at the Church. Now I will enjoy it and be helped by it. By the way, tomorrow will be eight years since I united with the church.

My term of office as president of Loyalty is almost up - in fact a nominating committee is now at work selecting new officers. They came to me and wanted to know if I would consider another term. I informed them that I expected to be out of town every other Sunday between now and Commencement and further that I would be out of the

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2.

city all summer, and still further
that I expected to be out of town
almost every Sunday next fall when
I do get back in school, and for
these reasons could not consider it.
They came to me again yesterday and told
me that after considering these things
and talking it over with Brother
Medbury, the pastor, they had decided
to ask me to take it again. I
then had a good long talk with
Bro Medbury and explained to him
the whole proposition. He was kind
enough to say some nice things
about me and my work with
the Society. He said they had

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3.
Canvassed the field very thoroughly and were unable to find just the proper person for the place. He said there were lots of good capable men, but that they were unable to find any one that they thought had just the qualities of leadership that were essential in the president of Loyalty. He further stated that he thought I would be able to get better results even though I were absent the greater part of the summer and could not be present every Sunday even now, than could be obtained by any other available candidate, even though he were able to be present every Sunday. I told him that I

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appreciated very much his kind words, but felt that he had exaggerated the matter somewhat, but that I would think the matter over. I hardly know yet what I will do about the matter, but rather think I will have to refuse, as I know from experience how much time and attention it requires and that I could not do justice to the work under the existing conditions.

It surely does make a fellow feel as if his efforts were not altogether fruitless when a man like Chas. S. Medbury says such kind things about you. Instead of making me feel all "puffed up" over it, it makes me feel very humble. I do wish I might have you here to help me and to enjoy it all with me.

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5

It was too bad about your "speed".
I am glad that you broke them before I
came home, if you had to break them at
all, for your mother would have accused
me of breaking them and I would not
have been able to convince her otherwise.
Of course, she would have had no grounds
for such an accusation, as I never
did such a thing in my life. (?)

Good night, sweet Alma, my own
true love, and may your dreams be
pleasant and your slumbers restful.

Your big boy

Kirby

I love you sweetest.



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JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

Houston, Texas, April 8, 1912.

Dearest boy:

I played traunt Saturday and didn't write you. I got a letter from you Saturday and a nice long one from you today, in answer to my nice long one.

I am rather proud of the grades you made. Val said you must have cut out the girls, but I told him, no such thing, you were just simply smart and could stand up to it all. All the same, though, Val is my pal. So is Dan. Dan and I bought some lots in Fidelity Addition across the street from each other, just for an investment. We each have the same size piece of land, 75 x 200, fronting the main street and two side streets. We are going to see how much we can make on them and who can make the most.

The weather was just lovely until Saturday and it rained all night and all day yesterday and some last night, I think. Of course, we didn't go to League City, so I just said I wasn't going to try to go until it quit raining. Somebody said that it was going to rain seven Sundays. Gee!!!! How do you suppose I will stand it. One thing sure and certain, if I don't drown in the meantime, I sure can't be buried in the dust. I just sat in the house and read all day long and didn't make an effort to go anywhere. Read a book and a half. Going some, isn't it. At least for me. Of course that would not be anything for YOU. (?)

I am going to let Wilfred join the Y.M. when you come back, if not before. He is about old enough and he needs something to get some of the clumsiness out of him and then he ought to get with other kids more, and he can't very well do it around home. He has got to go where he will see some that like to look nice, and get more interest in himself. He seems to be getting careless, and now is the time to stop such.

Say, if you don't make things interesting between now and June tenth, you will hear of me making love to some of these boys down here. they almost run from me now.

Yours ever,

o g n

Alma



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JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

Houston, Texas, April 10, 1912.

Dearest:

I have been working like a little nigger a part of the time here lately, and getting lazy the rest. Tell you what, I just feel so lazy and eager to get out in the open that the mud and rain we have is certainly provoking, inasmuch as it means that I must ride the street cars while it is at its worst. Perhaps I can ride Dick tomorrow if it doesn't rain any more between now and then, which is likely at present lookout.

I am certainly glad you are so popular up there and they think you are the only President available. Keep it up and you will soon be able to oust Teddy and Taft. (?) You would make a dandy president, and the ladies would all fall in love with you and you would not veto any Suffrage bills for them. Wouldn't that be awful?

Robert and Cleo and the baby came up last night and go back this evening. Robert could not work while it was raining, and wanted to run up to see us. They came on the Interurban. That kid sure is getting fat and pretty, and she sure is a case.

I can hardly wait for June. Count your days off fast. I hope it quits raining before you get back, as mother sure would scold you about bringing so much mud in the house.



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GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

Houston, Texas, April 12, 1912.

My dear Boy:

Say, I have something for you to tell Jack for me. Say to him that I have found a girl for him that will not kiss him the first time he asks her to, nor the second either. She is not what one would call beautiful, still she is not ugly or dull, so if Jack wants to come down here and get her next summer tell him to come ahead. She doesn't live in Houston, but lives between here and Galveston. I don't think you have ever met her, but I can assure you she is a nice girl. The reason I know she will not kiss the boys is that A Preacher wanted to kiss her one night when she was at the church social at League City and Cleo and Robert went home early, thinking she would be all right as she was with the pastor of the church at Dickinson, where she lives, but it seems the Preacher tried to take advantage of her and wanted to kiss her and made love to her and did kiss her hand, and it just about broke her heart and frightened her about to death and she was just about to cry her eyes out when she got home and told Cleo about it. See??????? Cleo and Robert went home yesterday morning.

Hope you are not having the blessed rains we are having or anything like them. Yours ever.

Alma

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Student Volunteer Movement
for
Foreign Missions

125 East Twenty-seventh Street
New York City

April 12, 1912.

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My dear Page,

Since our talk together I have thought frequently of you as you are facing the problem of finding your place in God's plan. At a time when there is so much Christian work to be done, we ought to seek to equip ourselves most thoroughly and effectively for the largest field of service that we can possibly fill. You know the value of a well defined purpose in developing intensity of life. You are also well aware of the unprecedented opportunities for Christian service on the foreign field, and the necessity of utilizing those opportunities.

In view of the tremendous need for the uplifting influence of Christianity and for spiritual enlightenment in the non-Christian world, in view of the great scarcity of well qualified men and women for the work, are you not able to bring yourself to a decision to prepare, if God permit, to go to this largest field of service for the Master? Such a decision would mean the investment of your life in a work which gives largest returns and greatest satisfaction of the kind really worth while. Then, having taken a definite stand yourself, you could be a great help to those who are trying to find out where they can best serve God. We must all work together with all our might for the advancement of the Kingdom.

With best wishes for success in your work, I remain,

Very sincerely,

Philip A. Swartz.

Other men want go. Many can not go and some must go. If we who know conditions and might possibly prepare to meet them do not do so, who will?

A.K.

FIDELITY
BRANDS



MANUFACTURERS OF
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JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

Houston, Texas. March 12, 1912.

Dear boy of mine:

I guess you think I treated you real mean yesterday by not writing more, but I guess we are even up on the note you wrote Saturday and which I got today. I am going to try to make amends and write a longer letter to you today.

I went yester to see Mr. Munger, at his request. He says you thought Mr. Isbells case was important, and I suppose it is, so I told him all I could, and will do my best to help him out, however, Mr. I. has hardly been there since as his mother has been ill quite some while and now that she is gone, it is uncertain when he may go back, but I suppose it will not be very long. and he is going to do all he can to catch up with whoever it is. I haven't said anything to him as I do not think it would be best. Mr. Munger also said that he had written you saying that you could have your old position back during the summer as long as you were here, which will be quite fine. He is all right.

Yesterday was mother's birthday (43) and I gave her a new gasoline stove, and some window curtains. She was wanting the things and so I just got them for her birthday present and thus killed two birds with one stone. See? Billy says he sure wishes you would hurry and come back as he wants some Ice Cream and he knows he will not get any until you do come, as he hasn't had any since you left. Pretty good reasoning, isn't it? Guess we will have to make him some before you come just to save our reputation a little.

✓
Now for our own little business and pleasure, and peace of mind. First I want to ask a question. If you intend to go into the foreign field in Association work, do you have to make preparation at school aside from what you are doing at present? You know, that I would rather you would be a Y.M.C.A. Man than a Minister, because you are more fitted to Association work than to the pulpit, in my estimation and that of some others, who know you as well as I do. As you say dear, we are not going into life for the financial remuneration, still, my boy, you realize that we will have to live, and the old adage is that when poverty comes in at the door love flies out of the window, and I think I have seen it tried, and as we are both lively energetic people we need never try such a scheme, still we do not have to let money turn out heads. You know it will never bother me or make me different to have money, but you also know that the lack of money will

change many things for us both, and make us both different in that we would take different ideas of life. It takes a good healthy body to make a healthy normal brain, and it is ever the case that persons in poverty let their brains get narrow. However, I know you do not need a sermon from me on this subject, but I don't want you to just dream. I know that you are too energetic to ever let anyone you care for want as long as it is in your power to keep them from it. We don't have to go into it for money, but still the higher up a man gets in the work, the more it takes to keep him going, and you don't intend to stay at the bottom or you would not be where you are, and I would not care for you. And, we need never fear but what we can catch up with the rest of them. I do not say that I would be averse to going to the foreign field in Association work with you, but I think I would prefer to stay here for a while at least, which of course we would have to do. And as you say, there is plenty of time to decide this.

Now boy, I have been thinking, and I am going to reverse my decision to some extent concerning our getting married next fall. I am going to wait until you come home and talk it over with you some more. Mother and many other people think that it would be the best thing for us to wait another year. I know, when I reason it out in my brain, that it will be best, but it is hard to stay here, even if I do have things a little pleasant. However, it is much better since I have had Nickie, and I am more independent and can go much more than I could if I had to go on the car, as then I could not easily go alone. I am going to talk it over with others who know more about the matter that I do and are able to advise me better. I have, so far, only \$275 saved up, which is here at 6%. True, that is nearly 300, and Dickie is worth something, and would bring a good price, as I would have to sell him as he would be a dead expense to mother. I still have a few months that I could save some, but then there are clothes, spring clothes to be bought for the whole family except daddy, as of course I would not buy him a thing, and it is his place to provide for the others, but as the matter stands, he just makes enough to pay expenses, and they have to be clothed, and mother seems to take more interest in life since she has good clothes she can wear around. Mr. D. promises to give me more money to stay another year, and he even went so far as to say that I could get married and send you off again and then stay, but of course, we would not consider that. He said he would not make such a proposition to anyone but ME. I think he will do about what is right as, modestly speaking, I am not such an unimportant person as some others around here, as I can take my place almost anywhere and fill in when needed, and in addition am an expert stenographer, while the widow is not an expert and can't do anything but write letters and answer the phone, and then gets galled up sometimes.

There is no use trying to decide before you come back, but Oh, boy, I do get so lonesome sometimes, and It is just awful to be an odd number.

Good night, boy of mine,

Yours,

Alma.

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Alma Darling:-

April 12 1912

This is Friday night and I have to get up at 4:45 in the morning in order to catch a train for Bunch. Have my three sermons about ready, so I am all O.K. Wish you were here to go down with me.

✓ am all puffed up over my base ball playing. In the game yesterday I succeeded in making a home run, the only one that has been made here this year. In addition to this I also knocked a three bagger. (If you don't understand the use of my terms ask some of the boys) Notwithstanding my prowess (?) we lost the game. (No! I am not conceited)

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2

Today is 7 years since we started
for California and five years to a
day since we landed in Houston.
Just think, we have known each
other almost five years. Just think
of the things that have happened in
that time. You were only sweet sixteen
at that time and had never been
kissed and I was a little bashful
fellow afraid of the girls. Little did I
think then that I would some day
be a "college man", and little did
we dream then that some day we
would be man and wife. Time brings
great changes in us all. Let us
hope all our changes are for the better.

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3.
I am glad that you are thinking
of letting Billy join the ymca, but I was
under the impression that he was not
old enough. How old is he any way?
a boy has to be twelve before he can
join.

Must quit now sweetheart,
so good night, baby dear.

Your big boy

Kirby

I love you, dearest wife.

Bunch Iowa Mar 18-1912

Bro Page. They are talking of half
time they say you are just starting
out and ought not ask for full Price
they think you ought to come half
time for 8/10⁰⁰ a trip. if you will
do that we will do our best to get the
money raised and get you to the
train Sunday night. we were all
favorably Impressed with the talk
you gave us

hoping to get your answer
by return mail

I am yours truly
J Hoover

Bunch
Ja
R. H. D. #1

Bunch In

4-22-1912

well they want
you to come back
next Saturday & Sun.
so we will expect
you then

well it is mail
time so no more
S Hoover

Bunch Iowa
3-25-1912

Bro Page.

your letter at hand
Saturday dont give us
any time to do very much
canvassing and get your
word to come sat the 30
so they say for you to
come next Saturday and
we will try and be
able to finish by that
time I am trying to get
you \$1100 but you come
we will make the announce-
ment and depend on you
and if there isent anyone
at the Station you go over
to Bro Evens. on the corner
the man I introduced you
and some one will call
for you you might
drop me a card when
you get this

the Boys is urging the
services every 2 week and
a number of them say
they are willing to help
and by starting next
Sunday will make it
all ternity with Bunch
so that is why they
wanted you to come
then.

Yours

J. Hoover

Bunch

Iowa

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Baby:-
Udell Iowa March 30 1912
I have to lay over here about 5 hours
in order to make connections for the great
city of Bush. However, I have a book
and can study Greek while I wait, so
it is not so bad. I am to preach
tonight, tomorrow morning and
tomorrow night, for which I expect
✓ to receive \$7⁰⁰ and expenses. This
is a hard trip, as I have to
get up at 4:45 Saturday morning,
and in returning I do not get to
bed at all Sunday night. However
it is a good experience for me
and I may possibly be able to
do some good. I expect to come
here twice a month until school
is out. I wish that you

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(2)

might be hear to listen to my sermons!
although I am far from being a
finished speaker, I do not believe
you would recognize in me the
bashful lad that stammered over
his remarks at Endeavor when you

first knew him. Time surely does
bring great changes to us all.

Everything is about the same
at school. Have not received our
examination grades yet. If the
present weather continues, baseball
and tennis will come into their
own own. Yesterday I was elected
captain of the Bible College base
ball team. I expect we will

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3

bring up the rear in the percentage column, as "preachers" are not very strong in athletics. However, we expect to have some fun and get some exercise out of it.

I suppose you noticed in the Delphis that Jack was elected Class President. He is one of the most popular fellows in the university. Wish you might know him.

If nothing happens, I will be back in Des Moines Monday morning about 8:30 o'clock.

I love my sweet little Alma.
Yours forever
Kirby

Viola

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P. O. DRAWER M

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

Houston, Texas, April 15, 1912.

Dearest Kirby:

Well, what do you think I did yesterday. I got awfully worldly and stayed at home and washed my head, and consequently it is all fluffed out today. I was mighty good and helped mother some and we had company for dinner, as usual, and all the kids got so noisey that I rounded up all I could get out of the neighborhood and ~~and~~ took them all out in the woods. I rode out there and let some of them take turns about riding behind me, and when we got out there I let them all have a chance and let Dick eat all the grass and trees and moss he could and then come home after wandering around for two hours. Everything was green and sure did look fine.

Later, I came home, changed my waist immediately, and at five o'clock struck out around the back way and went to Woodland Heights, and after much wandering and inquiry I found Mr. Langley and he found out where Mr. Munger lived. I did not know he had moved. I finally reached there and found your mother. She had about given me out as not coming. She phoned me Saturday and asked me to come out. Wasn't it good of her? The weather has been so bad all along that I hadn't had a chance to get out there before. She looked fine and seemed to be getting along nicely. So was Mrs. Munger. I didn't see Mr. I.E., of course. I also stopped by to see Doctor and talked with him a while and he thought my riding was just all right. Said make Dick pay for his feed and I told him I did.

Just think dear, It is less than two months now until you will be back, Just think of if. But say, if you don't quit adding on so much weight you will have some hard work when you get back, because you know the old saying, "Nobody loves a fat man" . Don't forget that. You are having too easy a time, so you had better go to work. Don't forget to tell me what Jack thinks about the girl I found him?

Yours ever,

Alma

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JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.
GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

Houston, Texas, April 17, 1912.

Dearest Kirby:

Well, we had "rain and hail and cold stormy weather" here yesterday, and today the Whitoak bayou is about 500% larger than it usually is. It is almost as high as it was the year you came here. Nevertheless, the roads are pretty good today as the rain was so hard and the wind following dried much. It really hailed yesterday and broke wildows all over town, that is on the other side, and as far this way as the Central Depot. All the passenger coaches standing out had the windows on one side broken out, many of the stores up town suffered, and a vast number of residences.

I suppose you have read of the Titanic disaster. Just think boy, of the people, living for the time in luxury and security as they thought, and on the largest passenger boat in the world. But, after all, ~~it~~ only shows that God is supreme on the sea as well as on the land. There must be too many people in this old world of ours, and he takes away from here those who do not suit him, or may be too good to stay here.

I am glad you are playing ball, ~~keep~~ it up. You need the exercise. ~~(too)~~ Better reduce some before you come home.

Yours ever and ever,

Alma



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R. F. ISBELL, SECRETY AND TREAS.

P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, April 19, 1912.

Dearest of mine,

Just a line or two to let you know that I am still
inn the land of the living. I have been house-cleaning all
day and been trying to get things about this old office some-
what straight. I think I will now be able to find whatever I
may happen to be looking for without looking all day for it now.
Didn't get my dictation until four o'clock and have just fin-
ished writing, at five.

Hope you are not having the awful weather we are
having here. It looks like rain again. Say, tell me, do
you play indoor baseball, or just plain field baseball?

Less than two months now, till you are home.

Yours,



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P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, April 22, 1912.

Sweetheart:

What do you think? I am really going to get another half holiday. Have finished all my work and am now going home to spend a half holiday in honor of San Jacinto Day. We do get some holidayss after all.

I stayed home yesterday and rested. Just took a good rest, and am feeling very good today. I also built a chicken pen Saturday evening, and consequently my hands are pretty much scratched up from the wire.

Mother is getting in practice for cooking cakes again and the weather is getting warm enough for Ice Cream, although mother declares she will not make any, but we can overcome that and make it ourselves and I just bet she will eat it.

Yours ever,

Alma



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P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, April 24, 1912.

Sweetheart:

Well, I have been going some since Monday noon, and if that doesn't express it, I have been going somer. Got off at noon and went home and worried mother a little, ate all the dinner I could, and went over to Gordon's where there were several others and played croquet. Lena's cousin and I won a game. Think of it, A Young Man and myself winning out first place. He happened to be the one that goes with Hortense B. Gene brought the set out Thursday and blistered his hands hauling dirt to fill up the holes in the yard. He said that we could have some championship games when you came back. Then, about five o'clock we all went to the City park opening, i.e. All the Gordons, and Gene, Mrs. Wipprecht and Elsa and the two kids and myself and there was another little boy with Hardy and Wilfred. They had fireworks and I liked to have broken my neck looking up at them. Then to cap it all we went out to Reagan Kindergarten last night. It was my first and last trip out there. We got home at twelve, that is we girls did, and I suppose poor old Chapman got home some time this morning.

The Pollocks and their family have moved to Woodland Heights, but there will still be Bertha and the Wyatts in the Heights. Alma said that she hoped we could make it out to get to her house when you got back, and for me not to get sick again. I told her we would have the whole summer. I am so sleepy I don't see how on earth I am going to stay awake until bedtime. Guess I will just have to eat to keep awake.

Count your days!

Yours ever,

Alma

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April 25 1912

Mr Kirby Page

Drake University

Des Moines Iowa

My dear Kirby:-

Your good letter came the other day, for which I thank you.

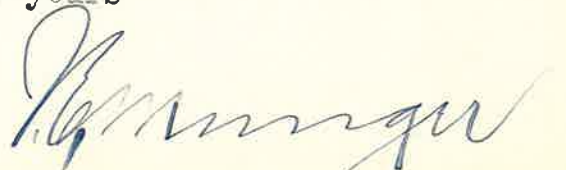
We have been having very strenuous times here, having with us Mr Frank M Brockman of Korea for a week, San Jacinto Day and other things of equal importance. Mr Brockman spoke at several luncheons and banquets and five times on Sunday, and we easily raised our two-thousand-dollar foreign budget.

I notice in the Des Moines paper of April 16 an immense display ad of a membership campaign of fifty teams to run their membership up to two thousand. I wish you would try and see Mr Fellingham and especially the Membership Secretary, Mr B B Hadley, interview them as to the result of the campaign and whether they are satisfied with it, and then try and get a complete set of newspaper and other printed matter, correspondence, tickets and everything used in the campaign. It will inconvenience you no doubt, but we will appreciate it very much and it might be useful to us.

I hope that I thanked you very much for the Gregory lectures which I have only partially read. Your mother has read them through. With this I am sending you a copy of my last report. You will be glad to know that Mr Michael's work has attracted considerable attention and that he has improved over two hundred per cent. We are looking forward to the time that you will be with us again.

Father is about the same, though not quite so well today. The rest of us are all right, and your mother is getting along fine. I passed your letter around among the force.

Sincerely yours



Enclosure
IEM/MLM



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GEO. O. HASKELL, VICE PRESIDENT.
R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

Houston, Texas, March 23, 1912.

My dear Kirby:

Feeling fine as a fiddle just now, but had the dickens of a headache all day. Too much concert in the rain, although I didn't suffer from getting wet as I kept dry and didn't get caught like some of them. The entertainment was just fine, and it was called a "Colonial Concert", as I suppose you have already heard about it, and the men were all dressed like George Washingtons, and the ladies on the receiving committee like Martha Washingtons. Mr. Michael and Horace were in it too, and Horace looked just for the world like a little kid when he grinned. He sure has got that "INNOCENT" look when he smiles, and no doubt about that. Saw Vick, and talked to him a few minutes, but didn't get to talk to him any more. He said you sure have treated him mean in the letter or post card line, and I expect that if you don't make amends before you get back, you won't have much of a Vick left, nevertheless I assured him that you were so busy it had slipped your mind and promised to be his friend instead., that I always had been and always would be.

We are planning to fix the office up sumgumptious this summer end, Oh dear, but won't we have a time. If I can get things fixed up my style, I will have all these people so lazy and contented they never will want to work again, except

to work their jaws and grind a little food now and then to keep body and soul together until the next watermelon comes along.

We are going to try and get some hammocks and fix up some Sofa Pillows , and possible screen the east porch. All this is in my mind, but I don't know if the boss will consent to all of it, although he has consented to part of it. I have planted plants and seeds in the office garden and do not propose to be left without flowers this year.

I must stop now and help the boys,

Yours ever and ever,

Alma

Dear but I wish I could see you

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Houston, Texas, March 25, 1912.

My dear Kirby:

I haven't had a letter from my boy since Tuesday or Wednesday of last week. Whats the matter? exams as hard as that? If they are, just send some down here and I will help you on them. Never mind, you will not have that kind of exams during vacation. Which kind would you rather answer? You had better take the precaution to cut your tongue loose at both ends and tie it up in the middle when you start home, because you will have to do some talking.

Yesterday and today have been rather fair and cool, but the three days preceeding were just floods and temper winders, and if it dosent make up its mind to quit raining soon I will either have to learn or just naturally pick up the art of---?????? swimming. Really, dearie, how would you like to put your nice little footsies in some Texas mud again? I just wish you could.

Yours ever,

Alma

DRAKE UNIVERSITY

DES MOINES, IOWA.

SHERMAN KIRK
DEAN, COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

March 26 1912

Mother of Mine:-

I went to hear Dr W S Hall, the noted author and lecturer on the Sex question, last night. I enjoyed his talk immensely and received help from it. It seems as if there is always something good to go to here, and a fellow has to watch or he will slight his studies, which I am trying to avoid doing. Have not heard from my examination papers as yet, so I do not know how I came out.

I am glad that you enjoyed reading the Gregory lectures. In reading a lecture a person only gets a very small proportion of good as compared with the hearing of it personally. Have sold 22 copies of the same thus far.

Perry sent me one of the pictures he had made with one of his pals in their uniform. Some swell doings. I suppose you have received one also. I am praying and hoping that things won't turn out so badly after all.

Just a little less than two and a half months until I will be home with you again. It can't go by too quickly to suit me. With lots of love to my sweet mother, I am

Lovingly your boy

Kirby



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P.O. DRAWER M

HOUSTON, TEXAS, March 27, 1912.

Dearest boy:

Heres another rainy day and it looks like work all corresponds with the weather. It just rained all around the weather and work too. It just looks like that ground hog never will come out again and stay. If this weather keeps up it will be bad on our baby chicks.

I am going to get mother a couple of little gooses Saturday or as soon as I can wade after them. Then she will have a regular house full of gooses and when you come back there will be a big goose.

Must stop now and look up a dutch cable and get it off in time to get home and get some supper for my poor little self.

Yours always faithfully,

Alma.



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Houston, Texas,

March 30, 1912.

My dear Kirby:

Would you believe it? after two days of nice sunshine, it looks like it is going to rain again and in fact has sprinkled enough to lay the dust.

I did intend to finally go to see Cleo tomorrow, but if it rains, of course I will have to stay at home. I also intended to go by Mrs. E.M.W.'s this evening as the S.S. class is going to gather there but if it keeps this up I will go Straight Home. I just tell you what it is enough to make a fellow ccuss, and if it doesn't stop pretty soon I will learn to ----swim. (again)

Mother said last night that if you are going to spend double time with me, she sure will go to the bay, as then you will be between the Devil and the deep blue sea. We have twenty five little chickens and four more hens setting, one to hatch Monday and the others will follow about a week apart. Guess we will have some chickens some of these days if they don't die. Suppose you will get a chance to taste any of them? Hope so.

Yours lovingly,

Alma



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Houston, Texas, April 1, 1912.

JAMES D. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.
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My dearest Kirby:

Well, what do you think I done gone and went and did? I just didn't go to League City yesterday because The weather looked so bad and threatening, but instead, went to Sunday School and stayed for church, and then went to Endeavor and stayed for church again. Bertha came by for me and would have me go to Endeavor, and she and Mr. C. were good enough to take Anna Row and myself home. Guess we will have to play good a few nights in the summer when you are here and Mr. C. happens not to get back from Galveston in time. Not often, but just now and then, to pay them back for their kindness.

The sun hasn't shone out more than half an hour altogether today, still, it hasn't rained to any great extent, so I can't worry much. It has just settled the dust nice for me. Dick and I had a little chat with Mr. Connally, the Supt. of the Dickson Car Wheel Works at noon on the way home. Mr. C. lives on 4th street and sometimes walks, and we happened to make the bridge at the same time, and of course Dick doesn't like to go over the bridge fast, so we just naturally walked slowly and talked to him. Altogether he is a pretty nice chap. You have seen him on the car, but I don't suppose you know just who he is.

I have about fully made up my mind, dearie, that I am going to stay on another year, and am making all my plans in that direction. I am going to take the first chance I get to see Mrs. Lockhart and talk to her about it. You know, of course, that I would much prefer to be with you, but it seems to be out of the question, as it would take some funds for me to go to school, and then I can help such an awful lot at home with just another year. Mother is getting so she can enjoy herself some, and I want her to go ahead and get all she can out of life, as it has been many a year since she could do so. She isn't an old woman at all, as yet, and if she gets just a little more care she may be here and happy for a good many years. Then too, Johnnie will be ready to start out in another year, and mother will not be entirely dependent on daddy for his little mite if it should never happen to increase. Johnnie can make something of herself if she only will, but she isn't quite as steady as her older sis, and I am afraid she is going to have a time, especially with that awful thoughtless tongue and temper of hers. She is so sassy, and I certainly do thank the Lord that I am not. I shall make

her study typewriting this summer and perhaps shorthand to some extent, then she can go to school for another year, or almost another year, at which time she shall have had as good a school education as I, and she can start to work without having to go through any factory as I did, and need never know what it is to work in such a place, if she will take opportunity by the forelock.

Bertha says that Mildred gives some very good reports of you, and that you stand in with everybody, even the faculty. Just like my boy. Who wouldn't expect him to? And you may be sure I am proud of you, and I know your mother is too. I have treated her real mean as I haven't seen her since she went to stay with Mr. Munger. I really do intend to go to see her, but this winter has been so bad, twice as bad as any you have ever seen in Houston, and you have seen some pretty bad ones. I am honestly telling you the truth, when I say that we haven't had six consecutive fair days since away long time before Christmas. Really this weather has been the wettest and most miserable that I can remember for a long time, and I have been old enough to remember a long time, almost twenty two years

✓ Just think of it, dear, we are getting old. But nevertheless, we will be carrying out our first intention if we wait another year. Who would have thought that such would be the case? Would you have believed me this time last year if I had told you that we would not be married until 1913? I don't think you would, neither would I, -- at that time. How odd it is that just a few words, can change the course of life for us, forever, for of course, we both shall have been changed, but I hope it is for the better. We both are learning many new things every day, and I use my eyes all I can, and my ears too. I listen to everything I can, and sometimes hear things that make me feel good.

From present indications, I think I shall have charge of the advertising all alone next year, and I do want to make good at it. It is a secret between the boss and I, and is not to be mentioned to anyone, but I just live in hopes, even if I do despair at a future time, but I have no intentions to do other than realize my hopes. We do not live to fail, that is not what God made us for, and gave us ambition. I am going to try, because I like to live. God made the sluggard for failure and despair, and we, you and I, love action. We will do our best, Won't we boy dear?

Yours forever,

Alma

O. J. ...
V. J. ...

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April 2 1912

Sweet Alma:-

I got back to Des Moines all
OK yesterday morning, after some very
interesting experiences. I preached Saturday
night, Sunday morning and Sunday night,
talking about 40 minutes each time.
The roads were extremely bad as the
snow drifts were melting, but in spite
of this we had good crowds. The people
were all mighty good to me (chicken, etc
for dinner) but some of them act as
if they had never been out of the
backwoods. Quite a number of the men
and boys came to church in their
overalls and wore their hats in the
house and one fellow even went
so far as to swear four times in
my presence (remember I was the "preacher")
in the church after services were over.

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2.

Later when I spoke to him about it, he seemed surprised and said he hadn't noticed it. Going some waitin' it?

After church Sunday night, I rode four miles on horseback to the station, as the roads were too muddy to drive a buggy. Then I was up all night making connections back here. Take it from me, I slept good last night.

Say, you are not going to be gone from Houston any while I am at home are you? If you go down to the bay I won't get to see you but once a week and that wouldn't do at all, would it sweetheart? If we get married we can go down for a few days before we come up here and if we decide to wait another year we

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3
might go down a few times together, but
I don't like to think of your being down
there two or three weeks. I want to be
with you every spare minute I have
and I could hardly do this if you went
down there each evening. Tell your mother
that I will do almost anything she says
if she won't take you off down there
then too, if you were down there I might
miss one of those chicken dinners you spoke of.

Good night, dearest little girlie
in the world, and remember that I say
from tonight I expect to kiss you goodnight.
Tell me how you will like that!

Most affectionately your boy

Kirby

I love you darling with all of my
heart. I do - I do - I do love you.



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R. F. ISBELL, SECRETARY & TREASURER.

Houston, Texas, April 3, 1912.

Dearest of mine:

Did I tell you I had broken my specks? Well I
done gone and went and did it. Broke them by bumping my
head on to Robbie Gordons arm. I went to look under the
table and she went to raise her arm, so there you are. We
just bumped, and smash went the specks, so I finally went
down town today and had them changed and I am glad it is
over with, at least that part. It will cost me 5, f-i-v-e
five great big round silver dollars to get them, and I
never was so broke in my life. It looks like I go Broker
every month.

I think I shall make a last effort to go to
League Sunday. If I miss then, I am going to quit.
Would never have known that it was Jack that got the
Presidency if you hadn't told me, as I would not have
recognized the name. I will try to remember it this time.

Yours,

Alma

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April 4 1912

Baby of Mine: -

Say, do you know that you are the sweetest, dearest and most sensible little girlie I ever knew? Well, you are. That was a good letter that came from you today and made me feel good all over. I am not rejoicing over the fact that it looks as if we were not going to be married next summer - just the reverse for I would dearly love to have you here with me. What I am rejoicing over is the way in which you look at things. I do believe you have more common sense and use it to better advantage than most any person I ever knew, man or woman. I hope that you will talk with Mrs.

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Lockhart. She ought to be able to give
you some good advice.

I am glad to notice that you are
so thoughtful of your mother. In most
cases if a girl is thoughtful for the
comfort and happiness of her mother,
she will make a sweet wife and
will be thoughtful of the comfort of her
husband. That being the case, I guess
I am a mighty lucky fellow,
if I know anything about the price
of "pertaters." This same thing applies
to boys as well as girls, and for
that reason you have cause to fear,
for I am afraid that I have not
always been very thoughtful of mother.
There is something queer about human
nature anyhow. After all mother has

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undergone for us boys, she is now alone with no prospects of much happiness in the future. I tell you, it is not right and somebody will have to answer for it. Will that somebody be me?

I can hardly realize that Johnnie will soon be a young lady. It seems as though it were only a few months ago that I saw her a bashful little girl peeping around the corner of the house at me. Yes, she ought to be able to help at home a little after you are gone. Then it won't be so very many more years before Billy will be large enough to help some. So after all things won't

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be as bad as they might with your mother.

Yes dear, "we are getting old" and it is hard waiting, but it will all work out for the best. It has done another year's waiting amount to when you consider that we are to spend the remainder of our lives together. Just think, we can talk all of our plans over together and can work out our plans together and we will each know the other's innermost thoughts and desires. Won't it be great and won't we be happy together though, sweetheart?

Yes it is true that a very little thing may change the course of a life time. Just think, if Dr. Lockhart

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had not set us to thinking along
different lines we might have been
content with a smaller sphere of life.
Now we have a vision of a larger
usefulness and let us pray that
we may be enabled to be the
means of changing the lives of many
people into higher channels of usefulness.
There is no end to what you and I
can accomplish if we consecrate our
lives to service, and I think we have.
I believe we will be happy together
in a higher sense than most people,
for we will get our joy from
service. The future looks very,
very bright to me, baby dear.

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It was very kind of Mildred to say nice things about me and I shall strive to so conduct myself that they may be partially true at least. It makes me happy to hear you say that you are proud of me. You surely are an inspiration to me with your words of love and praise. my grades for last quarter were as follows: -

Greek - A - 90-100
Geology - A
Public Speaking - A
Religious Education - A
English - B - 80-90

I must confess that these grades are better than I had hoped for and better than I really deserved. It seems